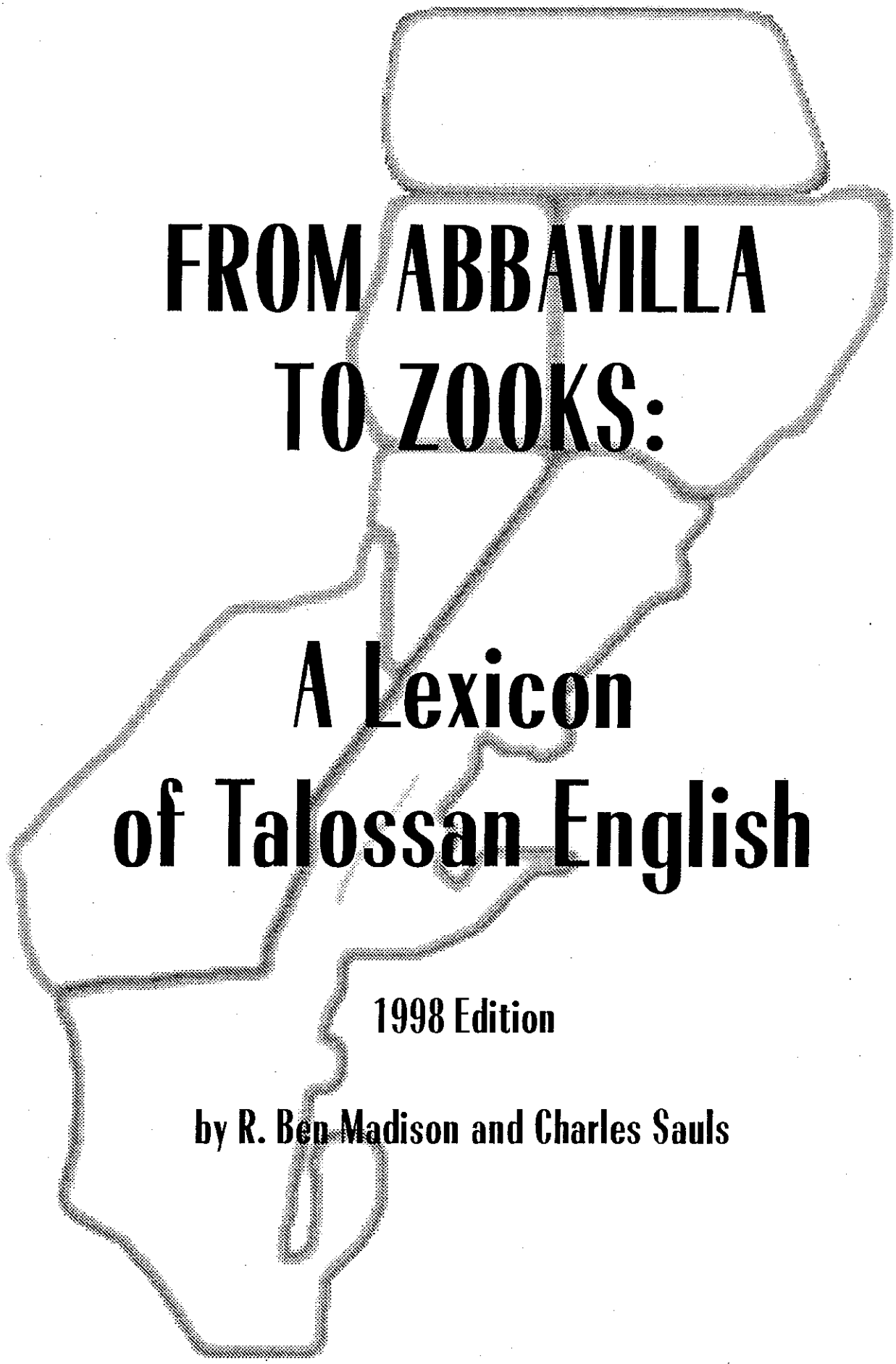

FROM ABBAVILLA TO ZOOKS:

A Lexicon of Talossan English

1998 Edition

by R. Ben Madison and Charles Sauls

Le premier livre d'une nation
est le dictionnaire de sa langue.

-- Volney

Language is a city, to the building
of which every human being
brought a stone.

-- Emerson

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- 1998 Edition -

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by
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and
Charles O. Sauls

with assistance from the
Comità për l'Útzil del Glheþ

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Introduction: About Talossan English

written for the 1989 edition by King Robert I

The following booklet is just the beginning of a serious study of the language spoken by the English-speaking population of the Kingdom of Talossa, a political state of some 40,000 persons in North America on the western shore of Lake Michigan.

Of the 40,000 population, some 28 qualify as Talossans, while the remainder are considered Cestoûrs (natives). The speech habits of the Cestoûr population, who are not integrated into the political life of the country, do not differ from their American neighbours. This Lexicon, therefore, is concerned only with *Talossan* speech habits.

Talossan English (nicknamed "Tanglish") is a distinct dialect of North American English, as far from the language of the United States as is the language of Canada. Lest the reader doubt, I offer the following dialogue between an informed American and an awe-struck Talossan:

> *AMERICAN: "So Støtanneu declared that the Tories would coalesce with the Sponge or the TNP, so the Androids might still try some abzurd VBP screwery in the Cosâ. Don't they know that Abbavilla's standpoint of view is sceptimistic about their Ben-Bashing Cēzembre attitude? Sure New Blood is nessecary in the RT, but I'd collapse the government if I knew that reptiles or sport-infested youth were writing their essays just to become non-entities or danarchists. It should be inorganic to let nutsoid, bozoid rabbers into the Regipäts; can't the Seneschál PD that? Even the Fringe Party wants to defunk these luds, at least the FM said so at the last Living Cosâ. So... How's my Tanglish?"*

> *TALOSSAN: "Zooks! A Cestoûr spouting Talossanisms! I've got strong awe! Increds, eh? Welcome to the nationette! Well, à revidarē!"*

I admit these sentences are a bit contrived, but they are good Talossan English and make perfect sense to informed Talossans, while Americans and other foreigners would not be able to make heads or tails of them.

This Lexicon is designed to be as comprehensive as possible and to point out as many distinctive Talossan English expressions as possible. However, the names of many of the smaller no-longer-extant political parties are not found herein. And, certainly, some of the words in this Lexicon are quite uncommon even inside the Talossan English-speaking community.

Talossan English, as distinct from American English, is the ordinary language of social intercourse between Talossans of perhaps 50% of the Talossan population. The remainder speak standard American English (owing to their living apart from the RT speech community), or French, or Swiss German. The Talossan national linguistic picture is therefore quite complicated. Add to that the presence of the Talossan Language, which since 1980 has been the first official language of the Regipäts Talossán, although because of massive Anglophone immigration, the Ladintsch (Talossan-speaking) population has dwindled to a mere 3.8% of the total Talossan people. However, the Talossan Language (even though nobody outside the Ladintsch population speaks it) is a fount of patriotic terminology and many Talossan words, e.g. Regipäts, RT, Cosâ, MC, Støtanneu, Seneschál, and Cestoûr, are in widespread use among Talossan-English speakers. In recognition of the important rôle of 'the Language' in the patriotic life of the citizenry, a star (*) is placed before those words which come from Talossan. An informal survey shows that about 38 of the words in this corpus (or 8.7% of the total) come from Talossan.

This booklet serves two purposes: one scholarly, the other patriotic. The scholarly purpose is to describe the linguistic peculiarity (or as we Talossans would say, "idiosyncrasy") of the subject language. The patriotic purpose is both to expose Talossans to the Talossanity of their own language, and to encourage Talossans to use these terms more often where applicable.

Talossans who use this booklet are encouraged to be "word scouts" -- to write down any instance of distinctive Talossan speech or writing they may encounter. This Lexicon makes no pretence to completeness, because as a wise man once remarked, the dictionary of a living language is never finished.

If Talossa is a distinct community, which we believe it to be, then we ought to find its language distinctive too. Indeed, if there were no Talossan English, there really would be little reason to doubt the naysayers who claim that "there is no Talossa". This book proves them wrong.

The Principles of Talossan English

Whenever communities form, they begin to use a form of language distinctive to their own community. Certain expressions become clichéd and ways of speaking become "familiar" although outsiders may wonder what they mean or if they are "correct". Every group has its own jargon; larger "ethnic" communities have their own dialects. Dialects may diverge over time till they become separate languages, at which point there is little or no comprehension between the in-group and the out-group.

The Kingdom of Talossa is, since 1979, a sovereign state. And equally importantly, it is a self-defined community of people who use language. For most of them, Talossan English is their language of social intercourse. Talossan English (TE) is distinct from general American speech because of a number of vocabulary innovations which are not current in American English (AE), as illustrated in the dialogue given in the introduction to the present work.

The distinctive vocabulary of Talossan English is derived from nine separate sources:

1. AE words whose meanings have shifted in whole or in part.
   Examples: *argument, sputter, territoriality, dandiprat, bloody take over, clarify.*
2. AE words distorted, combined, or mispronounced.
   Examples: *misconscrew, relevation, upsurgent, zooks, dramastically, sceptimistic.*
3. AE words with unusual endings attached (through the process known to Talossans as "linguabblod").
   Examples: *stenchuous, teetotalitarian, chasmatic.*
4. Invented words.
   Examples: *lud, linguabblod.*
5. Words from the Talossan language.
   Examples: *Regipäts, RT, glheþ, Cosâ, RTV, Seneschál, Contrâ.*
6. Words from foreign languages.
   Examples: *Stahlhelm, the Cězembre Attitude, Burgermeister of Inland Revenue.*
7. Words based on personal names.
   Examples: *Benquest, Ben-Ego, Jahnlike, Conic, Clark.*
8. Words from British English which are uncommon in the United States.
   Examples: *Tory, advert, minister* (US secretary), *opposition leader, government* (US administration).
9. Abbreviations, including those of political parties.
   Examples: *MC, PD, PM, FM, MOC, RT, PC, DDP, RPR, DDP, VSM.*

As noted before, the chief differences between Talossan English and American English lies in the realm of vocabulary. However, it must be remembered, ever since mid-1985 (law of 3rd July 1985) the sole official spelling for the English language in the Talossan government has been English spelling, i.e. standard international (British) spelling. The prestige of this spelling is further pressed in the leading newspaper, *Støtanneu*, which adheres to the official spelling. Other writers use a mixture of English and American (though they lean heavily toward the latter), while some make a point of spurning the Official Spelling entirely. The Government is working on an official simplification of the Official Spelling as we go to press.

In the field of pronunciation, Talossan English does not differ from the standard Midwestern American speech which is the prestige dialect of the United States (used on radio and television). This is not surprising, given the well-educated, middle-class American origins of a majority of Talossans. Indeed, some Talossans will proudly assert that "good American English" is more common (percentagewise) among Talossans than it is among Americans! Individual idiosyncrasies of pronunciation occur, of course, such as "abzurd" (see the Lexicon) and even a variation between the preferred pronunciation of "Talossa" as [ta-LOW-sa] and a variant, [ta-LOSS-uh].

In the field of grammar and syntax, Talossan English hews closely to its American neighbour. But even here there are some differences, most notably the tendency of Talossans to create monstrous syntactical circumlocutions by turning nearly everything into an adjective and attaching it to a noun. A good example of this was when Prime Minister Erni wanted to say "the bias of Ben that hangs over everything", but this came out in Talossan English as "the overhanging Ben-bias". This sort of construction is very common. Compound words (Ben-Ego, Ben-bias, Jahn-like) are also quite usual. Adjectives sometimes follow nouns in a sort of mock-French syntax, as in "affairs Talossan".

Another distinctive feature of Talossan English syntax is a tendency to move words from one part of speech to another by adding endings; instead of saying "it would be good in the interim", Dan Lorentz once wrote "it would be interimly good". Again, this sort of construction is very common. The ending -ance is often used to convert verbs into gerunds; this form is usually used in the plural and results in amusing hybrids such as "His planances went awry" and "The PC continues its wooances of voters".

Talossan English, to those who cultivate it, seems a much more free and uninhibited language than American or (especially) British English. Its free-wheeling syntax and rapidly-changing vocabulary prove a delight to its users and a powerful testimony to the distinctiveness of the Talossans as a people apart -- a nation in their own right, which is just what they claim to be.

How To Use This Lexicon

This Lexicon consists of several hundred words arranged in alphabetical order. Each word is followed by a two-part abbreviation in brackets. Example:

* Austanéu {v/bm}

The abbreviation {v/bm} indicates that the word in question is a verb {v} and that Ben Madison {bm} was responsible for the word's entry into the vocabulary. When possible, both the part of speech and the originator of the word are given for all vocabulary entries. The parts of speech are:

{a}	Adjective	{n}	Noun, singular
{adv}	Adverb	{np}	Noun, plural
{int}	Interjection	{v}	Verb

And the word-originators are identified thus:

{al}	Anthony Lawless	{fm}	Frédéric Maugey	{mc}	Maxime P-Charbonneau
{am}	Alberto Manassero	{fy}	Florence Yarney	{md}	Michael Dukakis
{ar}	Antonio Riley	{gbc}	Gabe Ceci	{mh}	Mark Hamilton
{as}	Albrec'ht Stolfi	{gc}	Gary Cone	{mm}	Matthias Muth
{aw}	Andrew Wozniak	{gh}	Geoff Toumayan	{mp}	Mark Pendl
{bd}	Brendan Duddy	{gt}	Gjermund Higraff	{pa}	Pedro Aguiar
{bg}	Brook Gläfke	{hm}	Harry Madison	{pw}	Peter Wilke
{bm}	Robert Ben Madison	{je}	John Eiffler	{rd}	Robert Dobberpuhl
{cc}	Christopher Collins	{jj}	John Jahn	{rh}	Ryan Hughes
{cs}	Charles Sauls	{jlm}	Jennifer Madison	{rm}	Robert Murphy
{dk}	Dave Kuenn	{jm}	Josh Macht	{tb}	Tom Buffone
{dl}	Dan Lorentz	{jmg}	John McGarry	{tg}	Tomás Gariçéir
{dm}	Dale Morris	{js}	Jack Schneider	{we}	Wes Erni
{dw}	Dan Wardlow	{jw}	Jean Williams	{wr}	William Renzi
{eg}	Evan Gallagher	{ko}	Ken Oplinger		

A star (*) before a word indicates that the word came into the Talossan English dialect from the Talossan language.

From Abbavilla to Zooks:
A Lexicon of Talossan English

Abbavilla {n/bm} The capital of the Kingdom of Talossa, located on the campus of the University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee. The term is often used loosely to mean "the federal government", e.g. "I don't care what Abbavilla says; I'm going to do it this way". Abbavilla is located inside Atatürk Province (q.v.) and is named, of course, for the Swedish pop band Abba.

Abbavilla Insider {n/dl} Someone who is intimately involved with the workings of the Talossan government, and/or who actually knows most of what's going on in Abbavilla at any one time. Such persons are regarded with suspicion by some Talossans; see "Outsiders".

Abo {n/we} Pronounced "AA-bo" (AA as in "cat"). A very pejorative term for a Cestoûr. It comes from "aborigine" (q.v.) but is considered more insulting.

Aborigines {np/bm} A pejorative term for Cestoûrs. The term is not strictly correct, since the Cestoûrs were not the original inhabitants of the Talossan Peninsula. It evokes images of primitive, savage tribesmen and implies a vast superiority of modern Talossans to their Cestoûr neighbours. The slightly less opprobrious term "Natives" is also used.

Abzurd {n/jj} Ridiculous or absurd.

Abzurd With A Capital "Z" {a/we} Extremely abzurd.

Account of Inland Revenue {n/bm} The Account of Inland Revenue (AIR) is a state bank account (at an American bank) supervised by the Burgermeister of Inland Revenue, which contains all the funds collected by the Talossan government. Funds may be withdrawn from the AIR by law and expended on government projects. Its acronym, "AIR", expresses the Kingdom's finances well, and the Government can well speak of "pulling money out of the AIR" to fund its projects.

Across the River {adv/bm} [See "River"]

* Activistâ {n/jj} Pronounced "ack-tee-VEE-stah". A member of the Talossan Activist Party.

Administration {n} [See "Government"]

Admiral of the Fleet {n/bm} [See "VSM Panache"]

Advert {n} An advertisement. This word comes from British English and is used far more often than American "ad" or "advertisement" in Talossan English.

Affectional Preference {n/bg} Sexual preference.

Aguiar, Daniel {n} [See "Porto Claro"]

Aguiar, Pedro {n} [See "Porto Claro"]

AIR {n/bm} [See "Account of Inland Revenue"]

* Aliançù Naziunál {n/am} Alberto Manassero's 1996 right-wing party; the term means "National Alliance" in honour of an Italian political party.

American {n, a} A citizen of the United States is called an American. However, the term Cestoûr (q.v.) should be used when referring to US citizens living within the borders of the Regipäts.

Amish {n/cc} A Talossan who is not on the Internet, especially if by choice. A mildly derogatory term.

Anarchy {n} A political philosophy (in Talossa) which advocates maximum chaos. Its prime motivation is not the belief (as in other countries) that government by its nature is evil, but rather, that Talossa's government is not "real", and therefore that an attack on it is just an attack on "pretence". See "Danarchy".

-ance {n} Suffix which turns any verb into a noun. Generally used in the plural. "Writances" are things which are written, i.e. writings. "Doances" are things which are done, i.e. doings.

Ancient Berber Ancestors {n/bm} [See "Berbers"]

Ancient Berber Heritage {n/bm} [See "Berbers"]

Android {n/bm} A young, conservative high school student who seeks citizenship in Talossa solely to combat the perceived forces of "the Left" in Talossa and to fulfill his own megalomaniacal ambitions and lusts for power.

Anglophilia {n} A characteristic of Robert Madison, who is a great admirer of the English political system and the English language. Many expressions in Talossan English were introduced from Madison's anglophilia, viz. "Prime Minister", "Parliament", "Opposition Leader". Madison's approach to Talossan politics, and "how the system should work", is that Talossa has a parliamentary system of government, and therefore if there is ambiguity, one should fall back on the English model. See "anglophobia".

Anglophobia {n} A characteristic of Dan Lorentz, who has traditionally been a great detractor of all things English. Whenever a word, spelling, or term is introduced into the Talossan milieu from English origins, Lorentz has been known to rail against it for days, not without effect.

Anglophone {n} English-speaking, as distinct from Francophone and Talossaphone.

* Anischinâ {n/bm} A Native American or American Indian. This Talossan word is often used in *The History* (q.v.)

Annexation {n} When the term "annexation" is used, it more often than not refers to the annexation of territory from the United States by Talossa. This has been an important political issue in the past.

Annexationist {n} A supporter of Talossa's annexation of territory, chiefly American territory, and most specifically the Northern Territories (q.v.)

Anniversary Party {n/bm} The annual celebration of Talossa's birthday, legally mandated to occur in December/January. It is normally observed in early December at Gay House and involves festivities to which all are invited.

Anthem {n} The national anthem of Talossa is "Tusk", by Fleetwood Mac, as it had been at the founding of the nation. Before the passage of the 1997 Organic Law, the anthem was the unfinished "Dallas Pätsilor" (q.v.) Before that, it was "Anthem", from the London musical *Chess*. And before that -- "La Talossanâ" (q.v.)

Anti-American Broadsides {n/rm} A former cabinet post concerned with verbal defence against the United States.

Anti-Talossanism {n/bm} Any act or thought which is aimed at denigrating, diminishing, defeating, dismembering, or destroying Talossa is to be denounced at once as "Anti-Talossanism". See also "Eighth Venial Sin".

Apartheid {n/fm} Pronounced "a-PAR-tade". The system of government in Talossa, where 40,000 Cestoûr "natives" are ruled by less than 100 Talossans (mostly without the former's knowledge) was called "apartheid" by Prime Minister Frédéric Maugey, and the name caught on in informal circles. Wes Erni, another Prime Minister of Talossa, made the observation that this was the "most insidious form of government known to man"; the ruled don't know that they are ruled! Of course, the whole system only works because the rulers do not make demands upon the ruled (there are no taxes, there is no military service, etc.) Various parties formed by immigrants from around 1988 (most notably STOMP) had proposed giving the vote to the Cestoûrs, but this urge quickly passed among all those who ever held it. See "Cußéglh Cestoûr".

Apathetic {n} An "apathetic" is someone who does not play an active role in Talossan politics but who does vote and is not completely detached from the country. See "non-entity". As an adjective, "apathetic" is used to describe anyone who does less in and for Talossa than the speaker wants him to. The term "apathet" {n/jm} is also found, but rarely.

Apathy {n} A debilitating social, moral, and spiritual disease involving the lessening of one's participation in Talossan affairs and the consequent weakening of the Talossan idea and state. Whether the Government should actively "fight" apathy is always a burning issue; some people want to pass judgement on "apathetics" while others wish to avoid this and hope they will come back on the strait and narrow some day. Some have supported apathy; they see it as "legitimate political expression".

Archives, The National {n/bm} In Talossan, *Müstáir Naziunál*; it is the King's official collection of all documents relating to RT history and culture.

* Arestadâ {n/bm} An official edict from the *Comitâ për l'Útzil del Glheþ* (CUG), regulating some aspect of the Language.

* À Revidarë {int} Pronounced "array-vee-DAHSH", the expression "à revidarë" means "good-bye" in Talossan. It is not uncommon for two Talossans to part saying this. Literally it means "until we meet again".

Argument {n} An argument is a discussion which often becomes heated, butwhich is always received in good humour and never interferes with personal intercourse. The ability to have a rollicking "argument" with another is one of the greatest cultural traits of Talossans. Talossans do not avoid arguments; indeed, they thrive on them. The entire Talossan political system is based on the spirit of argument. It is distinct from the American form of "argument" which leads to violence and hatred.

* Ár Päts {n/bm} The Ár Päts book is an abridged, inexpensive history of the RT; it is a mandatory purchase for all incoming citizens. Its author is the King. The title means "Our Country" in the Talossan language. Quotations from Ár Päts are occasionally referred to using the "scriptural method"; e.g. Ár Päts part 0, paragraph 5 would be referred to as Ár Päts 0:5.

Atatürk {n/bm} Pronounced "AT-a-terk". Talossa's northernmost province, bounded by Lake Michigan, Edgewood Avenue, the Milwaukee River and Kenwood Boulevard. Named for Turkish moderniser Kemâl Atatürk, who westernised Turkey in the 1920's and 30's. Atatürk is comprised of two cantons: Flúvia-Montevûdio and Abbavilla (q.v.) Its official abbreviation is "KA".

Atlas Naraddo Miro {n/we} Pronounced "na-RAD-oh MEE-ro", it is an atlas of world ethnic groups (in Russian, "Atlas Naradov Mira"). The reading of the Atlas Naraddo Miro by King Robert I has been cited by Wes Erni and others as an example of the bizarre extent of the King's infatuation with micronations and foreign ethnics. See "Pan-Nationalism".

Attrit {v/we} To wear something or someone down through attrition. The past participle and past tense is "attritted" or "attrited".

* Austanéu {v/bm} An abstention on a vote in the Cosâ. From the Talossan meaning "I abstain". Pronounced "oust-a-NAY-oo".

* Azul {n/bm} Talossan/Berber for "aloha," this word has entered into the Talossan English vocabulary, especially as a greeting in e-mail.

BA Beach {n} A stretch of shoreline alone Lake Michigan in Atatürk Province, now officially off-limits to tourists. The name is an abbreviation for "Bare Ass Beach".

Back Page {n/gh} An online newspaper published by ZPT member Gjermund Higraff.

Back to the Bedroom {int/dl} The battle cry of anti-Territorialist forces who believe Talossa's land claims to territory outside of the historic patrimony of King Robert's bedroom to be abzurd and unrealistic.

Balloting Day {n/bm} The first day of a Talossan election is called the Balloting Day. This is the day when ballots are made available to all citizens, either over the Internet or mailed out to offline Talossans. The citizens then have one month to get their votes to the Secretary of State, after which the election is declared to be over.

Bear the Brunt of Society's Burdens {n/gc} A phrase often sounded by Talossans, when they feel put upon by outside forces, is the tragi-comic "Why should I have to bear the brunt of society's burdens?" The phrase originated with Gary Cone (who said it in all seriousness) and has been repeated with a feeling of self-ridicule ever since.

Bell: The Speaker's Bell {n/bm} The Speaker of the Cosâ has a small bell (picked up by the King for a dollar) which he rings to call meetings to order. The Speaker's Bell takes the place of a gavel. It was inspired by the Irish Dáil (parliament), whose speaker also uses a bell.

Ben {n} 1) King Robert I's middle name is Ben, and this is the name most commonly used for him by his friends and relations. 2) The Talossan monetary unit is the "Ben" (abbreviated as £RT, e.g. £RT 6 or "six Ben"). It is not used in practice, US currency being used instead. The exchange rate is £RT 59 to US$1.00.

Ben-Bashing {n/dl} Any attempt to attack the reasoning or character of King Ben can be called Ben-Bashing. Sometimes it is justified. However, as several Talossan politicians have discovered, Ben-Bashing can only be carried so far before a wave of pro-Ben public sympathy is stirred up.

Ben-Bill {n/je} Generally, a "Ben-Bill" is any bill proposed in the Ziu by King Ben. However, the term has a more specific meaning, and refers to a bill proposed by King Ben that is so abstruse or esoteric as to be only of importance to Ben. These bills are all too common.

Ben-Ego {n/dl} The term "Ben-Ego" is virtually a synonym for "King Ben". The term "Ben-Ego" refers to the supposedly uncontrollable and overbearing ego of the King, which has to be constantly monitored, according to its critics. Many variants (Big-Ben-Ego, Big-Bad-Ben-Ego, Bengo, Bego, etc.) are also found.

Ben-gali {n} King Ben is called "Ben-gali" or is said to be using his "Ben-gali Powers" when using the mystical skills of mesmerisation he reportedly possesses. (The name 'Ben-gali' has nothing to do with Bengal or its language; it is a fusion of the names 'Ben' and 'Svengali.')

Benite {n/jj} 1) A follower of King Ben, in politics or in religion. 2) Nickname for an ill-fated church founded in 1985 by King Ben.

Ben Oversight Committee {n/dl} The "Ben Oversight Committee" was established by Dan Lorentz in 1987 and abolished in 1988. The Committee, which never did anything, was set up to "monitor" the official and non-official actions of King Ben, in the hopes of exposing him in some sort of compromising position. It was never more than a moralistic feather in Lorentz' cap, and its existence was seen by King Ben as unfair since no such committee "monitored" other influential citizens.

BenPost {n/jj} When letters are delivered by hand by King Ben (as is often the case for offline Talossans with *Støtanneu*, election ballots, and other Talossan literature), they are said to be delivered by "BenPost". One often asks, "Will you mail that to me or get it to me by BenPost?"

Ben Symbol {n/bm} A Chinese character roughly pronounced "ben" and meaning "excited, energetic, strong, brave," etc. This symbol is used (in honour of King Ben) in the Talossan coat of arms.

Ben-Time {n} [See "Time"]

Ben TV {n} [See "Sun King"]

Ben Wu {n/bm} A temporary name (in 1981) for *Støtanneu*, copied from a Chinese magazine, *Wen Wu* (which the King's Chinese wife tells us means "History") and combined with the King's nickname, Ben.

Benzoid {n/jj} A mildly depreciating term for King Ben.

Berber Project {n/bm} [See "Berbers"]

Berberism {n/bm} The whole Berber idea and its underlying ideology of Talossa as an "ancient" society, "restored."

Berber Project {n/bm} A large 1996 book (revised, 1997) setting out elaborate historical and linguistic evidence for King Robert's ancient Berber theories about Talossa's prehistory and identity.

Berbers {n} 1) An Afroasiatic people, the autochthonous inhabitants of North Africa. 2) The mythical ancestors of the "Talossan ethnic group" as propounded by King Robert I in the 1985 version of his official History of Talossa. The King was trying to establish Talossa as an ancient nation and traced our "roots" back to a Berber empire called Tolosa (modern Toulouse) in southern France ca. 250 B.C. 3) The previous theory eventually developed into a concept that Berbers were the ancestors of a great number of European peoples, and that they had sailed to and inhabited the territory of Talossa (and other locales in North America) in ancient times. This theory was put forth in King Robert's book, The Berber Project (q.v.) Talossans, according to a 1994 law, have an "inextricable connexion somehow" with Berbers. See "Berberism".

Besmirchment {n/bm} The act or result of besmirching.

Bewegung {n/jj} Pronounced "be-VAY-goong". The German word for "movement"; this word is sometimes used in Talossan English as a synonym for the English word "movement", e.g. "David is setting up his own bewegung."

Bicoloreu {n} [See "Flag"]

Big "E" {n/tb} When a political party gets a sudden burst of momentum, public support, or "energy", it is said to have "the big 'E'". This is similar to "the big Mo" in American politics (which of course stands for "momentum").

Big Huge Birds {np/aw} A political advert that is overly bombastic or pompous is referred to as "a Big Huge Bird" or "Big Huge Birds". The term derives from the gigantic stone eagles that always graced the adverts of the Talossan National Party.

Binding Barbistration {n/ar} A mispronunciation for "binding arbitration".

Bird-Cage Lining {n/gbc} A generic term for bad writing, first applied to King Robert's 1982 novella *2212* by an English teacher at Riverside High School; the novella went on to win 3rd place for the entire state of Wisconsin at a creative writing contest. So there.

Black Hand {n/we} In Talossan, *La Mhâ Nheagrâ* (MN). Named for a Serbian terrorist group, the MN was Wes Erni's right-wing annexationist party which supported the take-over of the Northern Territories (q.v.)

Bloody Take Over {n/dl} In the old days when the newspaper *Støtanneu* was printed by hand in a blank-paged book, a "Bloody Take Over" occurred whenever forces opposed to the King -- chiefly Daniel Lorentz and Robert Murphy -- seized control of the book and wrote their own version of Talossan news in it without the King's permission.

Blutfahne {n/bm} German for "Blood Flag"; a small RT flag formed from scraps of the original RT flag that was present when the country seceded in 1979. Its status as a sacred relic inspired the term "Blutfahne", in imitation of a blood-stained Nazi relic from the Beer Hall Putsch.

Bnook {n/dl} A forged signature. So called from the alleged "Brook" signature forged by Dan Lorentz; it looked like "Bnook" instead.

Bob Fights {np/dl} 1) A phenomenon involving King Ben and Robert Murphy, perhaps the two largest egos in Talossa, which rendered the two of them utterly incapable of sustained coöperation for any length of time. 2) The visible results or effects of this. 3) A former Talossan political party which advocated placing Ben as King and Murphy as Prime Minister, in order to watch the "Bob Fights".

Border {n} The term "the Border" refers to Edgewood Avenue (q.v.) although the Talossan-US border extends down the Milwaukee River as well. To refer to a place north of Talossa, one often says "across the border"; but west of Talossa is "across the river".

Borg {n/je} The Internet. Joining the Internet is known as "becoming assimilated to the Borg". Named after the Star Trek villains.

Bozoid {n/we} A generic term of insult.

Bridge Too Far, A {n/jj} Several Talossans play bridge, among them Wes Erni and Geoff Toumayan. When bridge-playing prevents them from involvement in Talossan social events, this is called "A Bridge Too Far" (apologies to Cornelius Ryan).

Britcits {np} Jon Peck and Paul Roberts, two friends from England who applied for Talossan citizenship and were approved at about the same time.

Brook Ballot Thing, The {n/bm} A 1993 scandal where schizophrenic Brook Gläfke accused John Jahn of forging Gläfke's election ballot.

Brubakerites {n/bm} The lowest form of life in Talossa, Brubakerites are drunken Cestoûr college students who walk on parked cars and vomit in mailboxes. All red-blooded Talossans cheer every misfortune which befalls such luddish human ooze.

Bubbler {n} A drinking fountain. This term is common in the area of the United States surrounding Talossa, and is universal among citizens of the RT.

Bug Nation {n/bm} A small micronation whose sole *raison d'être* is made up of two things: Getting recognition from other micronations, and giving long and pretentious titles to its own citizens (like "the blessed Maram of Icense de Inexise" or "the Most Serene Grand Poobah of Zwyxyxyxyxyxyxyxyxystyx"), even when the nation is only composed of one citizen, as it often is. However, those characteristics alone do not make a Bug Nation; the nation must also be pesky and ignorant, often accompanying requests for recognition from Talossa with abzurd threats. The word came about in 1997, when a group of Bug Nations threatened Talossa with a world negative-publicity blitz if it did not recognise their one-person web pages as legitimate micronations. This general conflagration/flame war with the Bug Nations came to be known as the Great Bug Nations War of 1997.

Burger {n} A citizen of Cézembre (q.v.)

Burgermeister of Inland Revenue {n/tb} A former cabinet position, responsible for the management and oversight of the national treasury (see "Account of Inland Revenue"). He was appointed by the Prime Minister.

Cabinet Minister {n} Same as "minister", below. The various Ministers, or Cabinet Ministers, form the PM's Cabinet, his closest circle of policy advisers.

CALL {n/aw} [See "Conservatives Against Liberal Laziness"]

Call Elections {v} [See "Dissolve the Cosâ"]

* Catalög Telefiunál {n/bm} Pronounced "kata-LURG tele-fee-oo-NOW". The Catalög Telefiunál is the Talossan telephone book. It is published evently, and contains the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of every citizen of the RT. It is referred to often as the "catalög" (pronounced "catalogue").

Catholic Party of Talossa {n/mh} A right-of-centre political party founded in 1997 by Mark Hamilton.

Cat Ions {np/pw} Tiny ions emitted by cats, causing allergies.

Centrality {n/bm} The term "centrality" refers to the crucial importance of something to the existence of Talossa. It is generally applied to the Big Ben Ego, but can be applied to others and their contributions too.

Centre {n} The "Centre" is the "third wing" of Talossan politics, lying between the Left and the Right. And as with those two wings, the Centre is also not very well defined politically. Most Talossan political parties as of 1997 claimed to be centrist, but this has not always been the case.

* Cestoûr {n/bm} Pronounced "chess-TOUR". An American who lives within the borders of Talossa. Cestoûrs do not vote in Talossan elections (unless they become citizens of Talossa, in which case they cease to be Cestoûrs) and do not participate in Talossan politics. Most Cestoûrs are unaware of Talossa's existence.

Cézembre {n} Pronounced "say-ZAWM-bruh". A small, uninhabited island off the coast of Brittany, in France. Cézembre has been a Talossan possession since 1982. From 1986 until 1988 the colony was self-governing; in 1988 direct rule from Abbavilla was reimposed; in 1996 Cézembre became a province of Talossa; and in 1997 a provincial constitution was written and approved by the province's citizens (known as "Burgers"). The province is divided into two cantons, the Zone Interdite and the Zone Autorisée. Its official abbreviation is "CE".

Cézembre Attitude {n/dl} A petty and vindictive desire to punish anyone who does not participate in Talossa the way that someone with this attitude wants him to.

CFT {n/mc} [See "Communauté Francophone de Talossa"]

Chasmatic {a/dl} Refers to a person who is socially isolated and with whom it is difficult to communicate. The term was originally applied to Gary Cone.

Cheapo {n/dl} A citizen who refuses to pay his taxes.

Circumcellions {n/bm} A Talossan organisation dedicated to Talossa's Berber (q.v.) heritage, founded in 1997 by King Robert I.

Citizen {n} 1) A citizen of Talossa is anyone who is born to Talossan parents (after 1987) or who has been naturalised by the Cosâ. Not every person living in Talossa is a citizen; most are Cestoûrs and do not have citizen rights. 2) The word "citizen" is sometimes used as an honorific title in the press in the place of "Mr" or "Mrs"; Citizen Jahn, Citizen Eiffler. The use of this title before the name of the King (e.g. "Citizen Ben" or "Citizen Robert Madison") is improper because he is the King. This usage of "citizen" was introduced during the growing Republican (q.v.) movement in late 1986 and 1987, and has been in use ever since despite the death of Republicanism in Talossa.

Clarify {v/jj} To censor. When an entire article is censored it is called a "comprehensive clarification". These were formerly common in *Talossan National News.*

Clark {n/bm} The monthly bulletin of the Cosâ, containing the text of all bills which have been submitted to that body for a vote in the Ziu. A copy of the Clark is distributed to each MC and Senator. The term is a calque on English "Hansard" and is named for Clark Graphics, the official printshop of the Kingdom, where Clarks were printed before the Internet era.

Clique, The {n} Pronounced "cleek", not "click". A group of students at Riverside High School before 1982 composed of Robert Madison, Dan Lorentz, Robert Murphy, and Josh Macht. These persons formed the core of Talossa before 1984. See "Soilitariat".

Clockwork Orange Party {n} Scandalous right-wing party founded in 1995 by Mugrads Matthias Muth, Brendan Duddy, and Nathan Freeburg. Due to the antics of Nathan Freeburg, known collectively as "nathantics" (q.v.), Muth quit the party in 1996 to help found the Silver Phoenix Party (q.v.) Duddy and Freeburg eventually quit Talossa; Freeburg rejoined Talossa later in 1996; his brother Josh restarted the COP.

Coalesce {v/bm}To form a coalition government, e.g. "Can the PC and the PdV coalesce?" "Will the TNP coalesce with the PC?", etc. A very common Talossan English word not used in this respect in other English dialects.

Collapse {v} This verb is used transitively in Talossan English, in the phrase "to collapse the Government", which means "to pull out of a coalition with the aim of forcing new elections" or "to dissolve the government". The King and the Prime Minister each have explicit authority to collapse the government, though any party in a coalition may try to do so if it can manoeuvre enough MCs to vote "no" on the Vote of Confidence (q.v.)

* Comità për L'Útzil del Glheb {n/bm} Pronounced "ko-mee-TAH purr LOO-tzee-oo del YETH", the Comità is a private patriotic organisation headed by King Robert I which oversees the growth, development, and promotion of the Talossan language.

Committee {n} A standing committee appointed by the Ziu to study a particular problem and report back if necessary. Committees have the tendency to exist for years and eventually be forgotten about, even by those who supposedly sit on them.

Commission Royal {n/bm} A commission appointed by the Ziu to study a particular problem and prepare a report called a "White Paper" describing the problem and proposing solutions, if any.

Communauté Francophone de Talossa {n/mc} An organisation for French-speaking Talossans, founded in 1997 by Maxime Paquin-Charbonneau.

Communist {n} The Talossan Communist Party was founded by Robert Madison in 1979 and was briefly in power in early 1980. It was never really communist, and instead supported a Ben autocracy. The PCT (Parti Comunista Talossán) languished in a state of semi-existence until it was transformed into the People's Party in 1986.

Cone Wars {n/rm} A military altercation in late 1980 which pitted the two World Singular Secessionist nations, the Kingdom of Talossa and the Glib Room Empire, against each other. The war is described in Ár Päts 2:1-10. It ended in total victory for Talossa. The term is sometimes used in the singular, "The Cone War".

Confederate Province {n/bm} A Talossan province which has achieved the right of self-government and autonomy. Distinct from a "Union Province" which is ruled from Abbavilla.

Congress {n} A Congress, or Party Congress, is a meeting of a political party (most specifically a pluralistic one) to draft a programme or just as a planning session. The American term "Convention" is sometimes used instead.

Conic {a/bm} 1) Of or relating to Gary Cone. 2) Chasmatic.

Conservatives Against Liberal Laziness {n/aw} A political party (abbreviated "CALL") created by Andrew Wozniak. The party was characterised by abrasiveness and right-wing views.

Constipated {a/dl} 1) Flustered. 2) Conservative and unimaginative; opposed to change.

Constitution {n} The original basic law of Talossa, written in 1979 and giving all state power to the King. It was supplemented by the Organic Law in 1985 and abolished in 1987. Not to be confused with "Constituziun". The -tion spelling is used when referring to the 1979 document, or to provincial constitutions.

* Constituziun {n/bm} Pronounced like English "constitution". A 13-page document written in mid-1988 which became the supreme law of Talossa in 1988, superseding the Organic Law. It was superseded by a new Organic Law in 1997. The -ziun spelling is used only when referring to the 1988 document. Note that the adjectival form of Constituziun is "Constitutional" -- with the Standard English spelling.

* Contrâ {prep/bm} A negative or "no" vote on a bill in the Ziu. From the Talossan preposition meaning "against".

COP {n} Abbreviation for "Clockwork Orange Party".

Coronation {n} The formal ceremony of the crowning of a new monarch. There have been three such ceremonies: December 1979 (of King Robert I), August 1987 (of King Florence I), and February 1988 (of the restored King Robert I).

Corpus Scriptionum Talossanarum {n/bm} [See "CST"]

* Cort {n/bm} The Uppermost Cort of Talossa is referred to as the "Cort", pronounced as in English. It is the supreme interpretive body in the RT.

* Cosâ {n/bm} Pronounced "KO-sa". The lower house of the Talossan legislature. Before the 1997 Organic Law, the Cosâ was a 215-seat legislature that did nearly all of the legislating in Talossa. Then the Senäts was reactivated in 1997, along with the term "Ziu" (q.v.) for the entire legislature of the Regipäts. The Cosâ currently has 20 seats. Votes for the Cosâ elections are done for political parties rather than for candidates. The party leaders hand out the seats that the party wins in the elections. As a parliamentary body, the Cosâ may be dissolved by the King or the Prime Minister at any time.

Council of Regency {n} [See "Regent"]

CPT {n/mh} [See "Catholic Party of Talossa"]

Crown {n} A decorative head ornament worn by the King of Talossa. There are two crowns; the First Crown (which was originally a Milwaukee fire department dress hat) and the Crown of St. John (originally a U.S. Army dress cap). Neither is made from metal, though a metal crown is depicted on the nation's coat of arms.

CST {n/bm} The CST, or Corpus Scriptionum Talossanarum (in Latin, "body of Talossan writings"), is a book containing all of the known works written in the Talossan language from its beginnings in 1981 to the present day. The original Talossán manuscripts were sent out to volunteers worldwide. Those volunteers typed the manuscripts and sent them to King Robert I, who put the book together.

* Cudëscherïa, La {n/bm} Talossa's online bookstore, providing a complete catalogue of Talossa-related books and literature.

* CÚG {n/bm} Pronounced "koog"; abbreviation for the Comità për l'Útzil del Glheþ (q.v.)

* CÚGist {n/jj} Pronounced "KOOG-ist"; a member of the Comità.

* Cußéglh {n/cs} A right-of-centre online newspaper founded in 1997 by PC member Charles Sauls.

* Cußéglh Cestoûr {n/bm} Pronounced "koo-SAIL chess-TOUR" (or incorrectly by some as "koo-BEAGLE CESS-pool"), the Cußéglh Cestoûr was a plan to give some sort of elective assembly to the 40,000 or so non-voting Cestoûrs living in the Regipäts. This 1988 plan fell through when the chief opposition parties boycotted it; elections were never held and the Cestoûrs remain without the vote.

* Cußéglh dal Ratenienschâ {m/dm} [See "Provincial Autonomy Council"]

Cyber {n} An online Talossan, or {a} Pertaining to on-line Talossans.

Cybercit {n/bm} A Talossan Citizen whose only social interaction with Talossa is over the Internet.

* Dallas Pätsilor {n/bm} The national anthem of Talossa, before the passage of the Organic Law of 1997, was titled "Dallas Pätsilor", and began: *Dallas pätsilor del mundeu, ja ün päts...* (Of the nations of the world, there is a land...) The words were by Robert Madison and the music was composed by John Jahn. Previous editions of this Lexicon claimed that the work was completed in 1989, but it was in fact never finished.

Danarchy {n/bm} The style of government and political participation said to be favoured by Dan Lorentz. Danarchy involves a maximisation of chaos, political turmoil, and unpredictability; it seems to have no positive aim except the bashing of Lorentz' opponents.

Dandelions {n/bm} Native-born Talossans born to Talossan parents and who become citizens without Cosâ action. So called because they spring naturally from the soil like dandelions.

Dandenburg {n/dl} A former Talossan Province in Dan Lorentz' bedroom. In 1987 this province was incorporated into the Province of Vuode.

Dandiprat {n/dl} A supporter or member of the now-defunct Democratic Dandipratic Party or of the political ideas of Dan Lorentz.

DanWire {n/dl} A "wire service" set up in 1983 by Dan Lorentz to funnel op-ed pieces to *Støtanneu.* Once it was set up, it was never used. It no longer exists.

Dårliget Løgner {n/bm} Pronounced "DOOR-ligget LIG-ner". The now defunct newspaper of the Communist Party. The name means "Dirty Lies" in Norwegian.

Davedroids {np/jj} Androids brought into Talossa by David Kuenn and supposedly at his beck and call.

Davron {n/jj} Collective term for right-wing losers Dave Kuenn and Ron Rosalez. The two lacked independent personalities and the word "Davron" took singular verbs: "Davron has lost another election". See "Androids".

Deadwood {n} Inactive citizens.

Death {n} In Talossa death takes many forms. There is "Patrick Matter Death", which is a Talossan's complete disappearance from the RT social orbit. There is "Renzi Death", which is actual, clinically verifiable death. There is also what is called "having one's head chopped off", which is where the Ziu expels you from citizenship. Finally, one's head falls off naturally: If you refuse to vote in three consecutive elections, you lose your citizenship.

Declaration of Renunciation {n} A statement one must write to formally end their Talossan citizenship.

Declare {v} To say. This word is often used in RT journalism; where a US paper would write "he said", an RT paper would write "he declared". It implies no special forcefulness or volume to the statement being made.

Deep in the Jungles of... {prep/jj} A disparaging expression made about travelling to any hot climate, e.g. "deep in the jungles of Sicily", "deep in the jungles of Alabama".

Defunk {v/bm} To abolish or make defunct.

Delegate {n/bm} Elections in Talossa are not for candidates; they are for political parties. After elections, the Party Leaders announce and appoint people to fill the seats the parties win; these people, before they take office, are called "delegates", and all a party's delegates are called that party's "slate of delegates".

Democracy Day {n/bm} A national holiday (28 September) held to commemorate the first national democratic elections in Talossa, in 1981.

Derivatism {n/dl} The RT political philosophy that Talossa should *derive* its own identity by assimilating or copying elements from other countries; broadly speaking, that Talossa is, should be, or pretends to be a real country. (See "Peculiarism".)

Devolution {n/bm} A scheme to transfer some autonomous powers to the provinces from the Federal Government.

Devotchka Gazetta {n/mm} A right-of-centre RT newspaper edited by Matthias Muth; the title means "Little Girl Gazette" in pidgin Russian.

DG {n/mm} Abbreviation for the *Devotchka Gazetta* (q.v.)

Disco {v/rh} To post a message on one of Talossa's Discussion Groups (q.v.)

Disco Group {n/rh} A Talossan Discussion Group. When used alone, "Disco Group" usually referred to Ryan Hughes' Talossa Discussion Group.

Discussion Groups {n/rh} Talossa-oriented online message boards. The first Talossa Discussion Group was established in May 1997 by Ryan Hughes; by July 1997 it was being called "the equivalent of the church door in Wittenberg" by *Støtanneu.* Later a group actually called "Wittenberg" was set up by Talossan Minister of Stuff Charles Sauls.

Dissolve the Cosâ {v} The King and the Prime Minister each have the ability to dissolve the Cosâ at whim. This forces all MCs to resign at once, and new elections must be called within two weeks (see "Balloting Day"). This is a feature of parliamentary government which is unusual to Americans. (See "Collapse the Government".)

Dobberpuhl {n} 1) Robert Dobberpuhl, the former King Robert II of Talossa (see "Waterpuhl"). 2) {n/dl} A "dobberpuhl" is a fictional citizen, so named because Robert Dobberpuhl, when a citizen of Talossa, has only been met by two or three other citizens and some on the Left speculated that he might not really exist at all, but be an elaborate ruse perpetrated by King Robert I.

Dobberpuhl Test {n/dl} A hypothetical examination designed to prove whether or not an incoming citizen is sane. Something like this was eventually introduced in the Cybercits Control (Immigration) Act of 1996.

DOLT {n/ko} "Defenders of the Land of Talossa"; see "Zefençadéirs del Päts Talossán".

Dramastically {adv/bm} Dramatically and drastically; shockingly and seriously.

Drang Nach Norden {n/we} The battle cry (in German, "drive to the north") of Annexationists (q.v.) Derived from the German "Drang Nach Osten", the idea that Germany's rightful conquests lay in the East, in Russia.

* Drapéu Grischun {n/bm} Talossan for "Gray Flag". The Drapéu Grischun has been the official banner of Ladintsch (q.v.) Talossans since 1991.

Driblet {n/bm} Before the 1997 Organic Law, Cosâ members could hold more than one seat. A "driblet" was a Cosâ member who had only one seat.

DRL {n/dl} Abbreviation for Daniel R. Lorentz. It is pronounced "DRL" or, rarely, "Doctor L".

Duce Day {n/jj} A tongue-in-cheek national RT holiday (29 July) celebrating Mussolini.

Dude {n} The elected leader of Cézembre (q.v.)

Early {adv} Before noon, as in waking up. Whether Talossans are biologically different from Americans is unclear, but they are generally "night people" for whom waking up before noon is a dreaded daily doom. The habit of staying up until 5 or 6 a.m. and sleeping until the late afternoon is sometimes called "Talossan Standard Time".

East Side {n} The East Side of Milwaukee is a self-contained community in Milwaukee with a strong sense of self-definition. The East Side is notes for overpriced "yuppie" restaurants and avant-garde cinemas. Since 1983 the entire East Side has been territorially identical with the Kingdom of Talossa.

Edgewood {n} Edgewood Avenue is a street stretching from the River on the west to the Lake on the east. It forms the northern border of the Kingdom of Talossa. South of it lies the RT; north of it lies America and the Northern Territories.

Edgewood and the River! {n/bm} A slogan used by pro-Territoriality forces who support the maintenance of Talossa as a solely East Side nation. Users of this slogan oppose both territorial expansion and territorial reduction and support maintaining the current frontiers.

Eek {v/jj} To barely succeed; to just squeeze by. Example: "He managed to eek past 15% of the vote."

Eh? {int} Rhymes with "way". This brief interjection, from Canadian English, is used to turn a statement into a question, as in "It's a good idea, eh?" This is more common in the written language than the spoken.

Eighth Venial Sin {n/fm} The "Eighth Venial Sin" is Anti-Talossanism (q.v.)

Election Deadline {n} A Talossan election for the Cosâ takes place over a period of one month. The first day in the month is the Balloting Day, when the ballots are made available to the citizens. They have one month to make their votes known to the Secretary of State. The last day that they may do so is called the Election Deadline. Once the day of the Deadline passes, the votes are counted and seats are apportioned in the Cosâ.

Elections {np} Talossan English prefers the Standard English word "elections" (plural) to the American "election" (singular). Thus one usually speaks of "the upcoming elections" or "When were the last elections?" The word is seldom seen in the singular.

Electrabase {n} 1) The secret HQ of "Crime Scope", in the defunct Electrawoman TV series. 2) The capital of the Kingdom of Talossa from 1994 to 1997, located in the King's computer room in his dad's attic. So named because the decorations resemble the "Electrawoman" set.

Empty Seats {n/dl} A Peculiarist scheme by Dan Lorentz to "represent" non-voters by allotting empty Cosâ seats to them in proportion to their share of the pool of potential voters. This is to make Talossa more "peculiar".

Emu {n} In early August 1997, a picture of a Mowhan citizen known only as "the Emu" was posted to one of Talossa's Discussion Groups (q.v.) along with photographs of other Mowhan citizens. Soon afterward, an obsessive, almost cult-like Emu-worshipping group began incessantly posting messages (and even a poem in the *glheþ Talossân*!) regarding the Emu to the Discussion Groups until Mowhan leader Erik Rothwell complained to Talossa's foreign minister, who requested that the involved parties cease and desist -- an action which effectively put the kibosh on the Emu "cult".

English {n} An auxiliary language in Talossa spoken by a majority of Talossans as a home language. Officially English in Talossa is spelt according to the rules of British spelling. The Talossan English dialect contains a large number of dialectal terms which are unfamiliar to non-Talossans. See "Tanglish".

Enriched and Ennobled {a/md} Expression used in Talossa sarcastically, especially of some boring social function, attendance at which "enriched and ennobled" the otherwise unimpressed participants.

Entertainment Value {n/we} When something is incorrect or abzurd, and is therefore laughed at or is unintentionally humorous, it is said to have "entertainment value" only.

Enver Hoxha Rabbit Reserve {n/jj} The nature reserve called "Downer Woods" (in northwestern Abbavilla Canton, Atatürk Province) is often called the Enver Hoxha Rabbit Reserve in memory of Albanian dictator Enver Hoxha (pronounced "HO-ja") and the large rabbit population that inhabits it.

Essay {n} The term "The Essay" always refers to the "What Talossa Means To Me" essay (q.v.)

Ethnic Group {n/bm} Any identifiable group in Talossa can be called an Ethnic Group, whether it be Abbavilla Insiders, Soilitarians, Cestoûrs, Mugrads, or Androids. The term implies group ties which are more than just ties of political affiliation and most often refers to groups of people who came into the country at the same time or from the same place and who identify with one another.

Evently {a/bm} A newspaper which is published only when there is an important news event to report is called an "evently".

Evil Clark {n/bm} The first online version of the Clark, so called because of Secretary of State Sean Hert's use of demonic black and red graphics.

Evil Telemarketers {n/js} Telemarketers generally are despised by most Talossans. The clichéd expression "Evil Telemarketers" comes from Jack Schneider, who for many years refused to answer his telephone because of the morbid fear that what he called "Evil Telemarketers" might be at the other end! This required Talossans to concoct a variety of elaborate schemes in order to get in contact with Jack.

Expunge {v/jj} To remove someone from Talossan citizenship.

FAQ {n} Rhymes with "quack". A FAQ is a computer term for a "Frequently Asked Questions" file. An unofficial Talossa FAQ is maintained on the Internet by Charles Sauls of the SFAC.

Fascism {n} 1) A totalitarian political philosophy propounded by Benito Mussolini, which Robert Madison supported in the early 1980s. 2) A generic, collective term for the Milwaukee County Sheriff's Department. The term may be heard, e.g. when Talossans see a Sheriff's car on the freeway: "Fascism is here"; or if one gets a speeding ticket, "I got a $75 ticket from Fascism". See also "Volkspolizei".

Fecivoric {a/bm} A vulgar term of derision, it literally means "feces-eating".

Federal Government {n} Talossa is a federation of provinces, though nearly all governing authority is in the hands of the central government. This government is referred to often as the "Federal Government". It should not be confused with the U.S. federal government. The terms "national government" or "central government" are also used.

Fifty-Nine {n/dl} Usually written "59". Some years back, Dan Lorentz had a dream in which he predicted that King Robert I would be killed at age 59 in "the second American revolution". For various macabre reasons, this number is considered a lucky number in Talossa, and many citizens have come to notice it whenever it appears in a price, serial number, or news item. When a 59 appears in an interesting place it is reprinted in *Støtanneu*, in a column called "Today's 59 Today".

Fifty-Word Statement {n/bm} Political parties, when registering for an election, must submit their 50-Word Statement to the Secretary of State, explaining in 50 words or less what the aims of the party are.

First-Class Citizen {n/bm} An obsolete term for "citizen" as opposed to "Second-Class Citizens" which are now called "Cestoûrs".

First Deadly Vegetable, The {n/jj} An expression dating from 1985, "the first deadly vegetable" is a metaphor for criticism, especially the first serious criticism that ends up unravelling an entire enterprise.

Flag {n} The national flag of Talossa dates from 1981 and is derived from the original flag of 1979. It is called the "Bicoloreu" (or "the Bicolour") and consists of a horizontal bar of green over a horizontal bar of red. The colours stand for the King's magnanimity and the people's tenacity. The flag is to be flown upside down in wartime.

Flip-Flop Op {n/bm} Nasty nickname for Ken Oplinger, which has stuck. It was coined in the heat of the December 1996 General Election when Oplinger allegedly flip-flopped on the Pocket Votes issue (q.v.)

* Florenciâ {n/je} From 1984 through 1990 Florenciâ was the southernmost canton (q.v.) of Mussolini Province. In 1990 its native peoples (read: John Eiffler) demanded autonomy due to dictatorship in Mussolini Province. Soon thereafter it became its own province, named after Florence Yarney (Talossa's King Florence I). It is composed of three parishes: Thord, Eifflerion, and King Florence; those parishes are further divided into 23 townships. Florenciâ's capital is at Landmark Lanes in Thord Parish; its official abbreviation is "FL".

FM {n} [See "Foreign Minister"]

For-Ever-To-Be {a/rm} The term "for-ever-to-be" was often applied to John Jahn, Talossa's leading rightist. It evokes a phrase written by Bob Murphy that Jahn was a "for-ever-to-be Nazi".

Foreign, Foreigner {n} The term "foreigner" is used to designate all persons (including citizens of the United States) who are not Talossans or Cestoûrs.

Foreign Minister {n} The cabinet minister who handles the foreign correspondence of the Kingdom and helps to set the foreign policy agenda. Abbreviated "FM".

Francophone {n} French-speaking.

Fringe Party {n/tb} 1) In general, "fringe parties" are small, right-wing political parties. The term is not generally applied on the left. 2) Specifically, an unkind nickname given to the TNP; in the Cosâ one often heard non-TNP MCs remark about "the honourable member from the Fringe Party" referring to a TNP member.

Frogs {np} 1) French people. 2) Francophone Talossans, who are generally liberal and noted for their inactivity. The term "do-nothing Frogs" is perhaps more common than just "Frogs" alone.

Front Uni pour la Nation {n/fm} The defunct left-of-centre political party run by former PM Frédéric Maugey.

FUN {n/fm} [See "Front Uni pour la Nation"]

Fusion {n/we} The formal unification of two formerly-independent political parties, or the result of such a unification (e.g. "The United Party was a PC-Black Hand fusion").

Garland {n} [See "Government House"]

-gate {n} From the AE suffix as in "Watergate", "Irangate", etc. It is often attached to Talossan names to form new combinations, e.g. Cézembregate, Brookgate, etc. It is used to denote minor scandals, generally mountains made from molehills.

Gay House {n/bm} A house in Atatürk Province, where the King often house-sits. Talossans often party there when owner George Gay is away.

Gelee-Prinzip {n/bm} Pronounced "gay-LAY prin-TSIP"; literally means, in German, "jello principle". This is a parody on the term "Führerprinzip" and is, jokingly, the political philosophy that motivates John Jahn. See "Lime Jello".

Gentlemen, Start Your Engines {n/je} A meeting early in the one-month election period, organised by the Secretary of State, to which all offline party representatives can come and get copies of the ballot at the same time. This is to prevent one party from getting the ballots first and getting an unfair jump on its competitors in the election.

Get The Hell Out! {int/hm} An expression of agitation directed against an individual with the aim of causing that individual to depart.

Ghost {n/jj} A former Talossan still active in the RT social scene.

Gleg {n} [See "Glheþ"]

Glep {n/we} [See "Glheþ"]

* Glhetg {n/bm} [See "Glheþ"]

* Glheþ {n/bm} Pronounced "Lʸeth" (one syllable). The Talossan word for "language". The word "glheþ" used in English simply refers to the Talossan Language. It can also be spelled "glhetg". Feigning ignorance, some pronounce this word "glep", "gleg", or "gulp" though this is highly incorrect and they know it.

Glib Room {n/gc} The Glib Room Empire was a World Singular Secessionist state formed by Gary Cone in 1980. It went to war in the Cone Wars (q.v.) against Talossa and was soundly defeated in that war. It disappeared by 1984.

* Gofïeu {n/bm} A name for a Talossan stew, cooked up by Wes Erni, and honoured as a part of Talossa's native cuisine.

Government {n} As in England and Canada (but not in the US) the term "government" in the RT refers to the Prime Minister and his cabinet. When the King appoints someone to be Prime Minister, the PM "forms a government" and appoints his cabinet. The American term "administration" is occasionally used in place of "government" -- thus the "Morris Government" and the "Morris Administration" are the same thing -- but the word "government" is preferred.

Government House {n/bm} Also known as Garland Hall on the University campus, Government House is the seat of government for the Talossan Kingdom.

Governor {n} Union Provinces and Territories are presided over by Governors who are appointed from Abbavilla.

Grecian Delight {n} A Greek restaurant in southern Lorentzio, Mussolini, frequented by Talossans.

Green Sheet {n} 1) The entertainment section of the defunct *Milwaukee Journal*, printed on green paper until it was cancelled in the spring of 1994. 2) The entertainment section of *Støtanneu*, which took up the Green Sheet as soon as the *Journal* cancelled it. The Green Sheet could no longer be published when Talossa went on the Internet in 1996.

Gruppengloppen {n/we} A joint session of the Ziu, where members of the Cosâ and Senäts vote together on citizenship applications. The results of a Gruppengloppen are not public information.

Gucci Duce Chair {n/jmg} A metal and leather chair at Gay House, which serves as the Speaker's throne and the seat for the Senior Justice of the Cort.

Guru of the Nation {n/dl} King Robert has the additional, non-constitutional informal role of Guru of the Nation. The duties of the Guru are to make sure Talossa is fun for all Talossans. As Guru, King Robert must see that Talossans have opportunities to participate as they want to. This often runs counter to King Robert's job as partisan member of the PC, and this causes him headaches.

GVB {n} Glorious Victorious Ben, i.e. Robert Ben Madison. This nickname dates from his years in high school.

Hare-Brained Gallagherisms {np/jj} Controversial opinions about Talossa, especially its culture, which were said to be held by Evan Gallagher and others who looked to him for leadership.

Hatred Day {n/bm} A national holiday (1 May) to commemorate the theft of the Talossan flag by drunken Cestoûrs. The holiday is intended to cultivate the spirit of disgust for Cestoûrs among Talossans. It is also called by its official name, the "Holiday of Hatred".

Haxh {n/dw} An idea was being tossed around on the Discussion Groups in 1997 that all Talossans should make a pilgrimage to Talossa at least once in their lives, similar to the Muslim "hajj" (which becomes "haxh" in Talossan spelling).

Heads, Chopping Off or Falling Off [See "Death"]

Heads Exploding {dl} When a person refuses to accept a logical argument, in the eyes of another. the other will say "Your head should explode". This is said to happen when one refuses to accept a logical argument, and in the words of Dan Lorentz, "the synapses in the brain start whirring, gain momentum, and cause combustion."

Hear, Hear! {int} At meetings of the Living Cosâ, one indicates strong support for what a speaker is saying by pounding one's palm against the table and saying "Hear, hear!" This custom is derived from the parliaments of the Commonwealth countries.

Herr Jahn {n} A chummy title for John Jahn, whose devotion to things German is legendary.

History, The {n/bm} The enormous (for Talossa) tome *The History of the Kingdom of Talossa* is a 200-page account of the history of the Regipäts from the earliest time to 1990, written by Robert Madison.

HKT {n/bm} [See "History, The"]

Holiday of Hatred {n/bm} [See "Hatred Day"]

Honourable {a} The term "honourable" is used at Living Cosâs to address MCs and Senators. It is bad form to address another MC or Senator directly, and so instead of saying "You are a lud", the MC or Senator phrases his remark as "The Honourable Member from Florenciâ is a lud." All MCs and Senators are referred to as "The Honourable Member from so-and-so", indicating their home province.

Honourary European {n/bm} Before the Internet Era, most of Talossa's European citizens (Maugey, Jacob, Matter) were non-entities (q.v.) In their memory, some New World Talossans who disappear completely from contactability are referred to as "honourary Europeans".

Hose {v} To defeat, destroy, beat, injure, annihilate, e.g. "The Germans were hosed in WWII". The noun form is "hosation", e.g. "The TNP is headed for hosation in another election".

HRM {n/bm} An abbreviation for "His Royal Majesty", used before the King's name, as in HRM King Robert I.

Human Ooze {n/jj} A derisive term for scum, low-life, immoral people, and so forth.

Ideal for Efficiency {a/bm} When the temperature is 15° Celsius or 59° Fahrenheit (see "Fifty-Nine"), it is often said that the weather is "Ideal for Efficiency". This is derived from the findings of an English scientist who calculated that hot weather makes people lazy and stupid and that the temperature most conducive to industriousness and intelligence was 59° (hence, the scientist concluded, the English were the smartest people on earth).

Idiosyncrasy {n} Talossa's national self-image, peculiarity, and distinctiveness is often described as the "national idiosyncrasy".

Immigration {n} The process of obtaining Talossan citizenship is known as Immigration, although the new citizen does not actually have to "immigrate" into the territory of the country.

Immigration Day {n/bm} A national holiday (24 June) celebrating the entry of the first non-Ben citizens into the Kingdom in 1981.

In-Bred Group {n/rd} An insulting term for the Soilitariat.

Increds! {int/jj} An exclamation of tongue-in-cheek disbelief, roughly equivalent to "Can you believe it?"

Independence Day {n} In Talossa, Independence Day (the day Talossa seceded from the United States of America) is the 26th of December. It is the largest national holiday, and in honour of the nation's freedom, red and green banners and posters appear all over the Kingdom during this time.

Initiative-Referendum {n} An Initiative is a referendum that is written by ordinary citizens and signed by petitioners. If signed by a sufficient number, the government is obliged to put the question on the next election ballot and let the people vote on it. Thus the people of Talossa may enact legislation themselves. This system is derived from Switzerland.

Inland Revenue {n/bm} [See "Account of Inland Revenue"]

Inorganic {a/bm} Unconstitutional. This term is derived from the "Organic Law" which governed Talossa for three years before the adoption of the 1988 Constituziun; if soomething contravened the principles of this law it was said to be "inorganic". The opposite of "inorganic" is of course "organic" (i.e. constitutional or legal).

Insider {n} [See "Abbavilla Insider"]

Integrity, The {n/dk} Davron's defunct newspaper, full of personal attacks, right-wing editorials on irrelevant US politics, and a detailed "fecal log" on the frequency and consistency of its editor's bowel movements.

Internet Era {n} Talossa was a strictly offline micronation until 1995, when PM Geoff Toumayan urged the King to put up a web page devoted to Talossa. Talossa's population increased dramastically and the threat of Talossa ending due to apathy, which was often a worry before 1995, has not been a concern since.

Interregnum {n/bm} An event in Talossan history in July of 1981 when King Robert decided that Talossa's existence was hampering his attempts to "pursue squeezable chicks" and thus, for one week, he declared that Talossa no longer existed. This fever quickly broke and Talossa has existed continuously ever since.

-ism {n} Added to a person's name to indicate a word, expression, or way of behaving peculiar to that person. For instance, before it passed into general Talossan English, the word "zooks" was a Benism; that is to say it was used only by Ben.

Iron Circle {n/bm} The shifting coterie of the King's closest advisors.

Jacobin Workers' Party {n/bd} Brendan Duddy's defunct left-wing party; also JWP.

Jahn-like {a} 1) Specifically, pertaining to John Jahn. 2) Generally, the term has a number of distinct meanings, such as excessively harsh and brutal ("Jahn-like measures were used to quell the riots"), devious or even sleazy ("In a typical Jahn-like move, several words were carefully deleted from the text"). The meaning of the term is always shifting, depending on what mode John Jahn is in at the time.

Journal of the Saudi Herpetological Association {n/cs} A Talossan humour newspaper (often called just *JSHA*), first published in 1997 by Charles Sauls (under the pseudonym "Ahmed von Schmecken"). It began as a series of silly articles tacked to the end of each issue of *Cußéglh* (q.v.), and soon became larger than the *Cußéglh* issues themselves, thus meriting a separate newspaper of their own. The name was chosen because the paper was not going to be a journal, Saudi, or herpetological.

JSHA {n/cs} Abbreviation for the *Journal of the Saudi Herpetological Association* (q.v.)

Juneau, Solomon {n} Solomon Juneau was one of the first European settlers on Talossan soil, and the early city of Milwaukee (then spelled "Milwaukie") grew up around him. The territory between the River and the Lake was called "Juneautown" before 1846 and had an often violent rivalry with Kilbourn (q.v.) before the two were forcibly united by the USA in 1846. (See Chapter IV of The History.) Juneau was a civilised, cultured French Canadian who was a model to many Talossans, and Talossa honours him as an exemplary first settler and forefather.

Jurisimprudent {a/jj} Showing poor judicial skill or temperament.

Jurisprudent {a/bm} Capable of exercising good jurisprudence and being able to think and reason clearly as a justice on a Talossan court.

Kaiserliches Jahn Königreich {n/jj} A World Singular Secessionist state under John Jahn which existed in late 1980 and early 1981. Its name is German for the "Imperial Jahn Empire". It was derided as the "John Jahn Nazi Empire" and had a Swastika flag. It was absorbed back into America in early 1981.

Keen {n} This AE word, meaning "nifty" or "neat-o", is not used in the RT due to confusion with the word "kuenn" (q.v.)

Kibbutz {n/cs} A term with a distinct Judaic flair, suggested in 1997 by Talossan Cartographic Institute fellow Charles Sauls for Talossa's smallest subdivisions; the word "township" (q.v.) was eventually chosen instead. The province of Florenciâ (being led by the aforementioned Sauls) chooses to recognise "kibbutz" as a correct term for "township".

Kilbourn, Byron {n} Byron Kilbourn was an early settler in the Milwaukee area, and ruled the area across the River from the modern Kingdom of Talossa with an iron fist. Kilbourn was a money-grubbing American who delighted in persecuting the good people of Juneautown. It was Kilbourn who besmirched the good name of Milwaukee by initiating the vile Bridge War of 1845, in which the jackbooted dictatorship of Kilbourntown attacked the property and the good people of Juneautown (see Chapter IV of The History). Kilbourn was eventually run out of town on charges of corruption. His name is vilified in modern Talossa, but the Cestoûrs have stooped to dignify him by naming a street after him. See "New Kilbournism".

King {n} A male head of state of the Kingdom of Talossa. The wife of a King is the Queen, and the husband of a Queen is the Prince Consort. Before 1988 the title of "King" applied to both male and female monarchs. Talossa's three sovereigns have been King Robert I, King Robert II, and King Florence I. King Robert I is the current monarch.

King Ben {n/dl} The affectionate term for King Robert, whose middle name is Ben.

Kitty-Corner {adv} Diagonally across an intersection, e.g. from the north-east corner to the south-west. The term is derived from Standard English "cater-cornered", a term which is totally unknown among Talossans. It is often used in prepositional phrases like "His house is kitty-corner from mine".

KRI {n/jj} A journalese abbreviation for King Robert I, used mainly in *TNN*.

Kuenn {v/bm} Pronounced "keen". To kuenn is to engage in secret wheeling and dealing, often pointlessly and with hopelessly unrealistic expectations. Derived from the name of David Kuenn, an Android (and half of the infamous "Davron") who frequently engaged in this activity.

Labour Day {n/bm} A national holiday (11 January) commemorating working people; held on the anniversary of the temporary 1980 Communist take-over.

* Ladintsch {n/bm} Pronounced "la-DEENCH" (with Đ like the "TH" in "this"). A Talossan-language speaker. The term comes from the Talossan language and is derived from the word for "Latin" (Talossan being a Romance language). See "Talossaphone".

Language Day {n/bm} A national holiday (12 December) commemorating the first use of the Talossan language in 1980 as a sign of the national idiosyncrasy.

Language Nazi {n/mm} A person whose primary or sole interest in Talossais the Talossan language (and its accompanying culture). The term is not applied in a derogatory manner (despite the fact that it contains the word "Nazi"); it came from a comedic character called the "Soup Nazi" that appeared on an episode of the American TV show "Seinfeld". See "Nazi".

Language, The {n} When Talossans refer to "the language", there is never any question about which language is meant: The Talossan Language. See "Glheþ".

* Las Penetrôntas {n/bm} A RealAudio sound file available over the Internet, recorded in 1997, containing the voice of King Robert I speaking the *glheþ Talossán*.

* La Talossanâ {n/bm} The national anthem of Talossa from 1981 to 1985. It was written by King Robert I and set to the tune of the Soviet national anthem. In its latest version it began: "Nothing without God, that is the word of this tiny nation of freedom." Before King Robert's conversion to Mormonism in 1982, the first words were "*All* without God..."

* L'Avîntguárd {n/ko} Formerly the official newspaper of the Zefençadéirs del Päts Talossán (q.v.), *L'Avîntguárd* was established in 1996 by ZPT leader Ken Oplinger.

Law of the Cosâ {n/jj} [See "Legeu dal Ziu"]

Law of the Ziu {n} [See "Legeu dal Ziu"]

* LC {n/jj} [See "Legeu dal Ziu"]

League of Secessionist States {n/je} The League of Secessionist States (abbreviated LOSS) was a "league" of three World Singular Secessionist countries (the Kingdom of Talossa, the Kingdom of Thord, and the Kaiserliches Jahn Königreich) which was created in the midst of the Cone Wars. It was defunked by the withdrawance of Talossa in early 1981. In 1996 it was reactivated as a league of Internet micronations, but sunk into disuse by mid-1997.

Leftist {n} This word has no proper definition, because every part of the spectrum defines it differently. But some tentative definitions: The Left is characterised by an anarchic streak. It is fanatically devoted to opposing any sign of Government compulsion (forcing people to pay taxes, fill out a census, purchase historical materials, or pay to keep government functioning) *except* when it itself is in power, and then it is capable of using the apparatus of state to suppress its opponents ruthlessly. The Left is often criticised for its selfishness, its inability to stick to any objective for very long, and its tendency to tire quickly of current events and become apathetic. The Left is intimately associated with the Soilitariat and the sentimentality and old-guard social-club definition of Talossa common in those groups.

* Legeu dal Cosâ {n/jj} [See "Legeu dal Ziu"]

* Legeu dal Ziu {n} When a bill is introduced into the Clark, it becomes a "Resoluziun dal Ziu" (Resolution of the Ziu, RZ) and is assigned a number (called the "RZ number"), e.g. RZ 23. The RZ is then voted on by the Members of the Ziu. If the bill is passed, it then becomes a "Legeu dal Ziu" (Law of the Ziu, LZ) and keeps its number which is now known as an "LZ number", e.g. LZ 23. Both RZs and LZs (and their Cosâ-based equivalents from before the 1997 Organic Law, RCs and LCs) are referred to by the month in which they were published, e.g. "RZ 4 of October 1997". The numeration (beginning with RZ 1) begins over again at the start of a new Government; the first bill in the first Clark after an election is always called RZ 1 (followed by the month of the Clark).

Let's! {int/bm} A generic term of mutual exhortation, identical in usage to French "allons-y!" It need not be followed by anything, e.g. the question "Shall we go to the store?" Answer: "Let's!" (An American would say "let's go".)

Lexicon {n/jw} The word "Lexicon" refers to this book.

Liberal {a} The term "liberal" in Talossa means left of centre and supporter of "leftist" (q.v.) causes. But the term "liberal" carries with it a hint of disinterestedness or boredom. An inactive "leftist" is called a "liberal". This connotation derives from the old Liberal Party, which was noted for its do-nothing attitudes. Liberals are generally Soilitarians.

Lies and Rubbish {n/jj} Something which is asserted to be false is called "lies and rubbish".

Lime Jello {n/jj?} 1) A green, translucent, tasty edible gelatin. 2) Supposedly, an erotic turn-on for Citizen John Jahn. This is based on an old rumour from Riverside High School which has always been denied by Mr Jahn, but the term is often brought up by those who wish to embarrass or depreciate him.

Linguabblod {n/bm} Pronounced "LING-gua-blod". The practice of adding superfluous or unusual grammatical endings onto English words, as with Talossan English "thinkance" and formations -- or formances! -- of this sort.

Living Cosâ {n/bm} A live meeting of the Ziu, at which as many MCs and Senators as possible assemble in person to debate the bills on the Clark, rather than using Vote By Post or the Internet. (The MCs and Senators who can't make it to the meeting are still allowed to use those two methods.) Living Cosâs must be authorised in advance by the Ziu, and are not held often. The Living Cosâ, proposed in 1987 and introduced in 1989, was designed to energise the discussion of Talossan politics and to get a wide range of Talossans together at one place to talk about Talossa.

LOSS {n/je} [See "League of Secessionist States"]

Loud and Raucous Crowd {n/bm} A movement in 1986 and early 1987 which attempted (with ultimate success) to force King Robert I back onto the Throne against his will, after his abdication. The movement was led by Jean Williams at first, and later by such disparate personages as Dan Lorentz, Wes Erni, and John Jahn.

Love Rock {n} The Love Rock (in Talossan, *Pëirâ d'Amôr*, pronounced "PAY-ra da MOR") was an artificial island constructed off the coast of the Regipäts in the Talossan Sea (Lake Michigan) in the 19th century, and named for the word "Love" that was painted on its side by hippies. The island was a popular goal for swimmers (including Talossa's Harry Wozniak) who would swim out to it to test their speed and endurance. The island was, in a burst of New Kilbournism (q.v.), destroyed by an American military strike in 1986. This was the only time that foreign armed forces have ever invaded Talossan soil, and the Kingdom denonced it as "state-sponsored terrorism".

Lud {n/dl} The word "lud" was derived from the abbreviation "LD" (learning-disabled), and was once a term of derision for mentally-retarded persons. (It has nothing to do with the AE word "luddite", meaning an opponent of technology.) The term has shifted semantically and is now a synonym for "idiot" -- a term of insult for any (perceivedly) very stupid person. The adjectives "luddish" and "luddite" refer to such persons.

Lunéville Declaration {n/bm} The guiding principle of Talossan foreign policy, namely that Talossan foreign policy shall serve the interests of Talossa and no other nation, and that Talossa shall do whatever she wants in order to fulfil this condition. The principle of the Lunéville Declaration had been opposed by the Talossan National Party, which had sought to make the RT serve American, rather than domestic, interests.

* LZ {n} [See "Legeu dal Ziu"]

Maestro {n/mm} The dictator of Mussolini Province, "elected" for a 100-year term (!) in 1996. As of 1997 the office was held by Matthias Muth.

Ma Fischer Accords {n/bm} A treaty signed in the spring of 1986 between the Talossan government and Dan Lorentz, who was leading a "rebellion" against the elected government. The treaty bound Lorentz to work within the legal framework of the country.

Maricopa {n/ko} Formerly Talossa's "South-West Territories" (abbreviated "TSO"), Maricopa became a province in 1996. It is made up of six parishes: Schneideriâ, Prachelion, Murphysboro, Weserniâ, Buffoniâ, and Frédéricville. Its official abreviation is "MA".

* Maritiimi-Maxhestic {n/jj} Pronounced "mari-TEE-mee ma-JES-tik". Talossa's largest province, spanning the entire coastline of the Regipäts from southern Vuode southward. The province was put together in 1993 from two former provinces: Maritiimi (the word means "maritime"; it is now Jahnhaven Canton) and Pórt Maxhestic (now Pórt Maxhestic Canton). The official abbreviation of Maritiimi-Maxhestic is "MM".

Maturity {n} A term used by some anti-Talossanists to debunk genuine feelings of Talossan nationality and to try, by inducing feelings of embarrassment, to destroy a citizen's confidence in his own Talossanity. The use of the term is in line with the false notion spread by foreign propagandists and domestic traitors to their country that it is impossible to be Talossan and fully adult at the same time.

* MC {n} An abbreviation for *Mimbreu dal Cosâ* or Member of the Cosâ (q.v.) One elected to fill a seat in the lower house of the Talossan legislative body. Similar to the UK or Canadian "MP" (the abbreviation "MP" is not used in Talossa). This term does not cover Senators, who are always referred to as "Senators".

MC-95a Form {n/bm} A form which all applicants for RT citizenship must fill out, providing basic biographical information.

MCU {n/jj} "Motion Carried Unanimously", a household word for a unanimous vote in a PC party Sïançâ.

Media Project {n/cs} [See "Talossan Media Project"]

Member {n} A Member of the Cosâ. See "MC".

Member of the Cosâ {n} [See "MC"]

* Mençéi {n/bm} The person who serves as sort of a "speaker of the Senäts"; the Senäts equivalent of the Cosâ's Túischac'h.

Mercury 7 {n/bm} The original six Cybercits (Chris Collins, Marc-André Dowd, Sean Hert, Ken Oplinger, Gjermund Higraff and Alberto Manassero), who joined Talossa in early 1996. There were only six of them, but somehow came to be known as the "Mercury 7."

MHHV {n} [See "Miehen Huone on Hänen Valtakunta"]

Micronation {n} 1) In conventional geopolitics, micronations are very small states (such as Luxembourg, Monaco, and Singapore). These, however, are usually called "microstates". 2) The term "micronation" usually applies to a host of countries so small that their independence is not generally recognised by the larger nations of the world. Talossa is such a micronation. The big powers fruitlessly pretend that these micronations are "imaginary" because they often intrude upon the sovereignty of big powers. See "World Singular Secession".

Midgetant {n/dl} A small-minded person, generally one who is too busy living from day to day to be interested in philosophy, which to Dan Lorentz is a cardinal sin.

Miehen Huone on Hänen Valtakunta {n} The national motto of the Kingdom of Talossa, abbreviated "MHHV". It means, in Finnish, "A Man's Room is his Kingdom". It dates from 1979 and reflects the old days when Talossa occupied a single bedroom of territory. It is pronounced "ME-e-hen WHO-oh-nay awn HAN-en VAULT-a-koon-ta" (the syllable "HAN" rhymes with "fan").

Mindless Patriotism Day {n} A national holiday (31 March) to commemorate Talossa's attachment to wargaming and TB.

Minister {n} As in other parliamentary countries, a Minister is a member of the cabinet, e.g. Minister of Culture, Minister of Foreign Affairs, etc. The American term "secretary" has the same meaning but is never used in the RT.

Minister of Culture {n} A cabinet minister whose job it is to study Talossan culture, arts, etc. Abbreviated M.O.C.

Minister of Finance {n} 1) Formerly, the government official responsible for the management of government finances. See "Burgermeister of Inland Revenue". 2) An affectionate term for Dr Harry L. Madison, the father of King Robert I, who is called the "Minister of Finance" because of his generous funding of the King's expenditures and adventures.

Ministry of Stuff {n/bm} The bureau of information. The Ministry of Stuff is charged with the duty of producing informative texts, pamphlets, and web pages concerning Talossa and Talossan affairs for the benefit of foreigners and citizens alike.

Minority of the Month {n/bm} The PC often introduces Minority of the Month bills in the Ziu, designed to broaden the awareness of Talossans to suffering minorities in foreign lands. Minorities of the Month have included Basques, Armenians, and Tibetans.

Misconscrew {v/rm} To misconstrue; to intentionally or willingly distort the record or policies of another.

* MN {n} [See "Black Hand"]

MOC {n/je} Abbreviation for "Minister of Culture" (q.v.)

MOI {n/bm} Abbreviation for "Minister of Immigration" (q.v.)

Mode {n} If one is doing X at a certain time, one is said to be in X mode (e.g. "He is in sleep mode" means "he is sleeping"). This term was developed independently in Talossa (it is also used in the United States) and has been used for years. It is derived in Talossa from wargaming; in the US it is derived from computer terminology. Wes Erni once reflected on human nature by saying that "we're modular beings", i.e. we do one thing one time, and another thing at another time. The term is often used for one's activity in Talossa, e.g. "He isn't in Talossa mode" means "he's apathetic".

Modus Benens {n/dl} A perfectly logical conclusion drawn from historical premises that are completely wrong, or such a conclusion drawn logically only if certain historical facts are ignored. King Ben is said to be particularly susceptible to this sort of thing.

Momgate {n/jj} A 1995 scandal where Dave Kuenn tried to sneak his own mother into RT citizenship so he'd have someone else to vote for his party.

Monarchist {n} In its loosest sense, a Talossan monarchist is a person who will support just about *anyone* for King, just as long as there is a King and not a republic.

Monarchy Day {n/bm} A national holiday (24 August) to commemorate monarchy in Talossa; held on the anniversary of the accession of King Florence I in 1987.

Money {n} Talossa has its own currency, the "Ben". It is not used, however. United States currency is legal tender in Talossa.

Morally Defunct {a/dl} When someone no longer has ideas worth listening to, he is said to be "morally defunct".

More Foreign Policy {n/wr} A general objective to make Talossa more involved with outside geopolitics is summed up under the heading of "More Foreign Policy". Some parties (like the PC) support this; others (like the Liberals) opposed it.

Mormonitis {n/dl} A depreciating term for the Latter Day Saint religion (see "Reorganism").

Mugrads {n/bm} An RT Ethnic Group composed of Marquette University graduate students. Pronounced "MUG-rad", *not* "MU-grad".

Multileggular Oogoloids {np/we} Insects or bugs.

Mussolini {n} 1) The Fascist dictator of Italy from 1922 to 1945. 2) A Talossan province bordering on the Milwaukee River. King Robert was infatuated with Mussolini from c. 1978 to 1984 and gave the Duce's name to the province. Mussolini Province is ironically a leftist stronghold, although a right-wing takeover in 1996 led to a new leader and a new constitution for the province that guarantees democratic elections every 100 years (!) The province is composed of two cantons, Riverside (roughly the northern half) and Lorentzio (roughly the southern half). Its official abbreviation is "MU".

Mussolini Action Squad {n/jj} An organisation created by John Jahn, Wes Erni, and Robert Madison to oppose the changing of the name of Mussolini Province to more left-wing alternatives proposed by some.

Mussolini High School {n/bm} The Talossan name for Riverside University High School.

* Müstâir Naziunâl {n/bm} [See "Archives, The National"]

Mutate {v} To change or evolve into a different form, usually in a disagreeable way. ("Ben has mutated into something bothersome.")

Mutant {n} Someone whose views do not accord with those of the majority.

Mutiny of Preverts {n/bm} Talossa's much-higher-than-average population of Gay and bisexual citizens has led to the use, in jest, of the term "mutiny of preverts" to describe Talossa or at least its non-heterosexual population. The term comes from the classic comedy "Dr. Strangelove".

Nathantics {n/mm} 1) The act of overly attempting to be clever and sneaky, with the intention to do harm. 2) Any time a perfectly laid plan goes wrong after the nathanticator botches it up.

National Names Office {n/bm} If they wish, new Talossans can choose to use a Talossan translation of their name. This helps them identify more with their nation, their culture, and their glheþ (q.v.) The National Names Office (in Talossan, *Oifisch dels Nôminâs Naziunâis*, or "ONN") does the translation, from an online database.

Nationals {n} The term "Nationals" was sometimes used to refer to members of the Talossan National Party, e.g. "The Nationals will try to coalesce with the PC".

Nationalist {n} The term "nationalist" is something of a misnomer. It has historically been associated with the Talossan National Party (q.v.) but certain positions historically held by "nationalists" found no support in the TNP, which was actually an American nationalist movement transported onto Talossan soil and dedicated to glorifying America and making Talossa as similar to America as possible. Today the term is in disuse, as no claimant to it has stepped forth. See "Patriotic".

Nationette {n/dl} An affectionate term for Talossa, as in "our cozy nationette", "this small nationette", etc.

Natives {n} 1) American Indians are often called "Natives" or "Native People". Historically the Potawotami Indians were the pre-1830 inhabitants of Talossa. 2) The word "natives" is sometimes used as a term of derision for Cestoûrs. See "Aborigines".

Nazi {n} 1) Anyone in Talossa that you disagree with. 2) More precisely, synonym for "racist" (q.v.) Talossans often joke about Nazis (of the German pre-1945 variety) and use the term with abandon, which some people have found offensive. In the words of John Jahn, "If you don't think Nazis are funny, you shouldn't join Talossa."

Neo-Peculiarism {n/cs} A short-lived movement started in 1997 by right-wing Talossan Charles Sauls that backed a populated Pengöpäts Territory (q.v.)

Neophyte {n/tb} The *Neophyte* was Talossa's third national newspaper, launched by Tom Buffone in January of 1989. It lasted only one issue.

Nessecary {a/aw} A misspelling of "necessary" perpetuated by Andrew Wozniak and now often used in speech in Talossa.

Neutrality {n} Talossa since 1979 has pursued a strictly neutralist foreign policy course, defined by the Progressive Conservatives as "a pro-Western neutrality, like Sweden or Switzerland".

New Blood {n/dl} The term "New Blood" is usually heard in the context of what Talossa needs, and has historically referred to new, active, politically interested non-apathetic citizens who are able to take a leadership role in Talossa, to relieve some of the burdens on the Jahn-Lorentz-Madison triumvirate of active citizens and make headlines for themselves. New Blood can be found among reactivated Talossans, but is most specifically looked for among non-citizens who are urged to become Talossans.

New Electoral Scheme {n/bm} A system by which voters rank parties in an election instead of voting for a single party. Thus a party that gets two second-rank votes may get more seats in the Cosâ than one which gets only one first-rank vote. This system was employed in the election of Spring 1986 and was quickly abandoned after it was found to be embarrassing to larger parties like the PC.

New Kilbournism {n/bm} This term is derived from the name of Byron Kilbourn (q.v.) and refers to any deliberate act, perpetrated by the United States of America or by traitorous Cestoûrs, to oppress or persecute the loyal citizens of Talossa or to destroy their property or territory. The term was first used in 1986 in connexion with the Love Rock incident (q.v.)

Newspaper Day {n/bm} A national holiday (23 April) commemorating the first successful mass-market newspaper in the RT, *Talossan National News.*

Next Generation {n/bm} An Ethnic Group composed of Nick Kovac and Andrew Worm, two Riverside High School students barely older than Talossa itself. They were supposed to revitalise RT politics and start a flood of younger faces into the country, but faded into apathy and disappeared.

Nimlet {n/je} The parliament of the province of Florenciâ (q.v.)

Non- {dl} A prefix used before names to indicate persons other than the named person. For instance, a "non-Jahn" is anybody who is not John Jahn. In the same vein, after the PUNK win in 1987, Dan Lorentz wrote that power in Talossa "has shifted from a Ben to a non-Ben". The prefix is used before first names except with "Jahn" (which everyone treats as a first name anyway).

Non-cyber {n} A Talossan who is not online, or {a} Pertaining to Talossans who are not online.

Nonentity {n/we} Someone who no longer participates in Talossa in any way, and who may even no longer be in contact with any Talossans. Often used improperly in a derisive way to mean "apathetic" (q.v.)

Nordmark {n} A nickname for Atatürk Province (q.v.), because of the large number of Canadians named Mark living in that province.

Northern Territories {n/we} The American suburbs of Shorewood and Whitefish Bay, which lie north of Talossa, are sometimes called "the Northern Territories" by Talossans. They have never actually been part of Talossa, but Annexationists (q.v.) had supported their subjugation for many years. See "Black Hand".

Nouveaux-Talossans {np/bm} A Nouveau-Talossan is any Talossan who does not belong to the Soilitariat (q.v.) Most immigrants since 1984 have been Nouveaux-Talossans.

Oath of Office {n} Prime Ministers since 1981 have been sworn into office with the Oath of Office. In reciting it, they pledge to "faithfully execute the office of His Majesty's First Minister" and "defend the integrity of the Talossan State". It closes with the affirmation "Long live the King!" The Oath of Office is taken in the Talossan language.

Obstructionist {n} An MC (or Senator) who hinders the passage another MC's (or Senator's) legislation by means of various technical manoeuvres, in order to be petty and vindictive.

Oh, oh! {int} A conventionalised spelling for generic growls of discontent uttered by the Opposition during Living Cosâ meetings. The opposite of "Hear, hear!"

-oid {n} A suffix which in Standard English means "shaped like" (spheroid, etc.) In Talossan English it has expanded its meaning and now just means "like". It is often used in conjunction with "beings" as in the expression "Wesoid beings" (people who are like Wes Erni in some way). The suffix also appears in the term "android" (q.v.) Adding the suffix to nouns conjures up images of mindless automatons marching forward; "an army of Danoids"; "an entire delegation of Benoids".

* Oifisch dels Nôminâs Naziunâis {n/bm} [See "National Names Office"]

Old Growth Talossan {n/bm} Any Talossan from the Milwaukee area; more broadly, any Talossan who is not a Cybercit (q.v.)

* ONN {n/bm} [See "National Names Office"]

Open Letter {n} It is common practice for Talossans to make their views known to the people via an "Open Letter" to one of the newspapers. When one styles his announcement an Open Letter, it is generally of a more serious or personal nature than if it is billed as a Guest Editorial or some such term.

Op Leader {n/bm} A short form of "Opposition Leader" (q.v.)

Opposition {n} As in parliamentary countries, the Opposition is that bloc of seats in the Cosâ which do not support the Prime Minister or his programme. Talossans often (improperly) use this term to mean "any party other than the PC", as in "I'm going to run an opposition party in this election" or "The PC made a coalition with the DDP even though the DDP is an opposition party".

Opposition Leader {n} An informal position in the Cosâ; the King appoints the Opposition Leader. The officeholder derives no power or benefit from this title, however.

Organic {a/bm} [See "Inorganic"]

Organic Law {n/bm} 1) A constitution-like document which governed Talossa's political system from early 1985 until late 1988. It had grave flaws, chief of which was that it gave the King virtually unlimited powers. These were scaled back over time until by mid-1988 the Organic Law was so amended as to be virtually nonexistent. It was replaced in September 1988 with the Constituziun (q.v.) 2) Talossa's current "law of the land" is the 1997 Organic Law, which replaced the 1988 Constituziun in June 1997. (See "OrgLaw Committee".)

OrgLaw {n/bm} Abbreviation for "Organic Law" (q.v.)

OrgLaw Committee {n} The multipartisan committee, officially known as the "Talossan Constituziun Reform Committee", that began rewriting the 1988 Constituziun (q.v.) in August 1996. The TCRC decided to craft a completely new document, known as the "Organic Law" (q.v.) or simply "OrgLaw", that would be a lot more stable than the often-amended 1988 document. The TCRC completed its work in June 1997, and the Organic Law they worked on became the law of the land on 6 July 1997 after all but two people supported the document in a national referendum.

Outside {n} When speaking loosely about non-citizens and people totally unfamiliar with Talossa, these are often referred to as "people on the outside"; e.g. "People on the outside don't know what 'RT' means".

Outsider {n/dl} 1) An "outsider" is a Talossan citizen who does not follow Talossan politics very closely and who can be amazed that Abbavilla Insiders (q.v.) can rattle off the current issues of the day from memory. The easiest way to tell an Insider from an Outsider is to observe their daily conversation. If Talossa comes up more than once a day, chances are they are Insiders. 2) An "outsider" can also mean a non-citizen, but the more complete phrase "people on the outside" should be used. (See "Outside".)

PAC {n/dm} [See "Provincial Autonomy Council"]

Pan-Nationalism {n/bm} A political philosophy held by King Robert I, which states that every ethnic and national group on the face of the earth should be able to form its own state with secure borders and in peace with its neighbours. Robert's reasons for this belief are unclear, but detractors say it is because he is infatuated with flags and anthems and different kinds of licence plates and wants to see more of them.

Paper Dolls {np/pa} [See "Porto Claro"]

Paper Wars {np/jj} Historically, "paper wars" were intense, personal competitions between Talossa's two newspapers (*Stœtanneu* and *Talossan National News*). The heyday of the "paper wars" was in late 1986.

Paranoid Vocabularianism {n/al} The habit of inventing derogatory neologisms to describe one's political opponents.

Parish {n/bm} Talossa's cantons (q.v.), which are US "census tracts", are divided into parishes, which are US "census block groups". Talossa has approximately 50 parishes, which are divided further into 400+ (!) townships (q.v.)

Parliament {n} A not very commonly used alternate name for the Cosâ. It is used without an article; a bill can be debated "in Parliament" or "in the Cosâ".

Party {n} [See "Political Party"]

Party Leader {n} Different political parties have different organisational structures, but all have a single person (whether elected or otherwise) at the helm; this person is the Party Leader. Various titles exist in each party for the post of Party Leader; for example, in the Progressive Conservative party (q.v.), the leader is called the "President."

Patriotic {a} The term "patriotic" has been defined (mainly by the PC) to mean "supportive of a concept of Talossa which defines Talossa as an actual nation". Implicit in being "patriotic" (as the term is used by the PC) is a support for territoriality (q.v.)

Patriotic Couch Potato {n/bm} A "patriotic couch potato" is a Talossan citizen whose sole mode of participation in the country is to sit back and watch a small number of Abbavilla Insiders perform instead of actively engaging in the inner sanctums of political life of the country. Such persons are often enamoured with the phenomenon of the "Sun King" (q.v.) and are content to sit back and, more or less, watch "Ben TV" rather than participating.

PC {n} [See "Progressive Conservative Party"]

PD {n} A Prime Dictate (see below). Can also be used as a verb: "The PM can PD that into existence without the Cosâ."

* PdV {n} A journalese abbreviation for the Vacillation Party (q.v.), from the Talossan-language name of that party; usually seen in *TNN*.

Peculiar {a/dl} 1) Roughly the same as "quirky". 2) Of or relating to Peculiarism (q.v.)

Peculiarism {n/dl} A political philosophy championed by Dan Lorentz, which held that Talossa should be "peculiar", utterly unlike any other human nation (except where Lorentz thought otherwise). To that end, Lorentz urged abolition of territoriality (q.v.) and the adoption of his Empty Seats scheme (q.v.)

* Pengöpäts {n/bm} The Talossan Antarctic Territory, claimed in 1982 during "Cheap Glory" (q.v.) Its rather apt name means "land of the penguins" in Talossan. Pengöpäts' official abbreviation is "PE". In the summer of 1997 its governor, Evan Gallagher, and prospective citizens Anthony Lawless and Albrec'ht Stolfi worked on a portoclarian (q.v.) fake history, language, and culture for the territory, which they and the neo-Peculiarists (q.v.) sought to raise to provincial status under the name "Penguinëa". This attempt failed; by September the "Pengöpäts enthusiasts" had given up the Portoclarianisms and simply sought a populated Pengöpäts. Today Pengöpäts is uninhabited, and has a status similar to a United States "national park".

Penguinea {n/eg} A micronation formed in 1997 by two ex-Talossans, Evan Gallagher and Ryan Hughes, and two others (Ian Kabell and Anthony Lawless) who were refused entry to Talossa by the Uppermost Cort on account of their perceived anti-Talossan views. Penguinea launched a website denouncing Talossans as "fascist" purveyors of "lies and hatred", and was naturally a subject of controversy among Talossans.

Peninsula {n/bm} Talossa occupies a strip of land between Lake Michigan ("The Talossan Sea") and the Milwaukee River. This is often called the Talossan Peninsula, even though strictly speaking it isn't one.

* Për {prep/bm} An affirmative or "yes" vote on a bill in the Cosâ. From the Talossan preposition meaning "for". Pronounced "purr".

Perbatim {adv/jj} Verbatim.

Petty and Vindictive {a} [See "Cézembre Attitude"]

Persecution {n/bm} Generic mistreatment.

Pie Graph {n} The Holy Grail of many Talossan political parties is to see their share of the vote, as shown on a pie graph, expand. Parties will often do stupid things (like hand away promises to idiots) just to get a greater percentage of the vote, although this may not do them any good in the long run.

Plugged-In Talossan {n/jj} Any Talossan on the Internet, Cybercit or otherwise.

Pluralistic Party {n/jj} A political party whose executive, decision-making process is controlled by more than a single individual. These are rare in Talossa, although they are becoming more common as time goes on.

PM {n} Abbreviation for "Prime Minister".

* PN {n/bm} [See "Pôst Naziunál"]

Pocket Voters {np} [See "Pocket Votes"]

Pocket Votes {np} "Pocket Votes" are people who unquestioningly (and often unthinkingly) vote for the same party -- or, more precisely, for the same person -- in every election. Every major party has pocket votes, but decries its opponents for having pocket votes. Such pocket votes can be trusted to vote in predictable fashion, so the task of predicting the outcome of the next election is made easier.

Pocket Votes Letter {n} A letter, signed by many prominent Talossans (mostly outside of the then-ruling PCparty), that sought to get King Robert I to encourage pocket voters to, more or less, "shape up or ship out" with respect to Talossan political activity. This attempt was called "genocide" by the King, who in the role of Guru of the Nation (q.v.) is to make sure that all Talossans can participate in their own way in Talossa.

Point of Cosâ {n/je} A point of order (in parliamentary procedure) relating to the rules of the Cosâ.

Political Party {n} The term "political party" is often something of a misnomer in Talossa, because frequently a "party" has consisted of one person who has given himself a political party label in order that he may stand for election. The tradition of individuals running as "independents" is virtually unknown in Talossa. Individuals instead prefer to dress up in the garb of an organisation and parade around therein. Parties which actually have a degree of organisation, and which consist of more than one member, are called "pluralistic parties" (q.v.)

Pontiac {n} The capital of Vuode Province. Pontiac is named for an American Indian leader who led a rebellion against the British in the 18th Century.

Porto Claro {n/pa} A micronation (q.v.) started by Pedro "Daniel 'Pedro Aguiar' Aguiar" Aguiar, a Brazilian high school student. Aguiar's micronation was one of the first nations Talossa diplomatically recognised in the Internet Era (q.v.), but Talossa soon found out that Porto Claro was composed only of Pedro Aguiar and his "paper dolls" (multiple personalities), who went under names like "Marie Antoinette", "Daniel Aguiar", and "Adolf Hitler". Porto Claro was also the first Bug Nation (q.v.); it pestered various Talossans with internal "news" from its one-person government. In 1997 it began attracting other citizens due to a newspaper article written about it; reforms to replace the "paper dolls" with real people and become a more serious government reportedly began afterward.

Portoclarian {n/bm} 1) Fake, pretentious, and juvenile. 2) In micronational terms, a "portoclarian" nation is one that is populated by fake individuals (often called "paper dolls") and has aspects of its history and culture which are overtly fictional and concocted by the portoclarian micronation's one or two residents. (This as opposed to Talossan culture, which has evolved due to the interactions of more than 75 Talossan citizens and is a lot more enjoyable.) Both definitions of "portoclarian" come from Porto Claro (q.v.), which met all of those definitions before its "reforms" began in mid-1997.

* Pôst Naziunál {n/bm} The Talossan national postal service, abbreviated "PN".

Post-1984'er {n/bm} An obsolete as well as clumsy term for "Nouveau-Talossan" (q.v.)

Premier {n} The elected leader of a Confederate Province (q.v.) is generally referred to as the Premier. The word is pronounced "PRE-mere" with accent on the first syllable.

Preoperational Knobs {n/jj} A Piagetian nickname for Davron (q.v.)

* Preßeu Støtanneu {n/bm} Pronounced "PRESS-oh sta-TAH-no" and abbreviated "PS". PS is the privately-owned publishing house which publishes the newspaper Støtanneu and other works. It was owned by the government until privatised in 1986.

Prime Dictate {n} An order which has the force of law, issued by the Prime Minister. It does not need to be approved by the Cosâ, but can be rescinded by the Cosâ or vetoed by the King. See "PD".

Prime Minister {n} [See "Seneschál"]

Prince of Prospect {n/bm} Male heir to the throne of Talossa.

Princess of Prospect {n/bm} Female heir to the throne of Talossa. The heir to the throne as of January 1998 is King Robert's sister Jennifer Madison.

Privatise {v} To turn from state control over to private industry. *Støtanneu* was the official Royal newspaper until 1986 when it was privatised.

Programme {n} A party platform or list of party-supported ideas and schemes is often called the "programme" of that party. The PC uses this term officially, while *Støtanneu* generally prefers the term "programme" to the American "platform". However, the individual items in a party programme are still referred to as "planks" or even "programme planks" -- a typically Tanglish mixed metaphor.

Progressive Conservative Party {n/bm} Abbreviated "PC". The Progressive Conservatives are usually the largest party. It had historically been run directly or indirectly by King Ben, but since 1993 it has operated under a strictly democratic structure. The PC maintains a centrist, moderate stance on most issues, but is distinguished by its emphasis on provincial autonomy, a powerful monarchy, and support for territoriality. The PC is also noted for its insistence that Talossa is a nation and not a club or idea. The PC is nicknamed the "Tories".

Prospective {n/bm} A person who applies for Talossan citizenship but has not yet been granted it is referred to as a "prospective" or "prospective citizen".

Province {n} A territorial unit. As of October 1997 Talossa has seven. Since the adoption of the Canton Plan in 1984, provinces (*provinçùns* in Talossan) have been made up of one or more cantons (q.v.) Provinces are the only units of Talossan political geography that have not been pre-defined by the United States government. A province is different from a territory because a province must have at least one citizen. For more information, see "Confederate Provinces" and "Union Provinces".

Provincial Autonomy Council {n/dm} A government-watch organisation dedicated to provincial autonomy, founded in 1997 by Dale Morris.

* PS {n/bm} [See "Preßeu Støtanneu"]

PSB {n/rm} Pretentious Sententious Ben. A less congratulatory nickname for Robert Ben Madison than "GVB".

Publicity Day {n/bm} A national holiday (16 October) celebrating the public announcement in the *Milwaukee Sentinel* of the existence of Talossa, in an article written by citizen Dan Lorentz in 1984.

Queen {n} [See "King"]

Quest {n} A search. Talossa is a small country, and in pre-Internet days, one could visit the homes of most citizens on foot. When one roamed the country trying to find an individual, this is referred to as a "quest", usually with the person's name joined on. Thus to search the RT for Ben is a "Benquest", and to search for Jahn is a "Jahnquest".

Quirkiness {n} 1) Traditionally, the term "quirkiness" implied a fertile and active imagination, but one which works in unexpected and delightful ways. 2) This word has more recently meant the same thing but with a subtle connotation of Peculiarism (q.v.)

Quirky {a} Imaginative in an unexpected but delightful way; has a subtle connotation of Peculiarism (q.v.)

Quit {v} To renounce one's Talossan citizenship unilaterally.

* Quotaziuns {n/bm} *Støtanneu*'s often embarrassing, always entertaining quotes from prominent Talossans. Getting into the Quotaziuns means you've made it in Talossan politics.

Rab {v/bm} To "rab" is to utter "Rabid Adolescent Blabberings". One who rabs is a "rabber" and what a rabber says is "rabbing". The word "rab" is roughly equivalent to the expression "to foam at the mouth".

Rabid Adolescent Blabberings {np/dl} A term associated chiefly with young right-wingers. Rabid Adolescent Blabberings are threatening, silly-sounding and uninteresting paranoid militant tripe. See "Rab".

Racist {n/bm} Someone who discriminates against, or seeks to repress or expel, one or more Talossan ethnic groups. Since "ethnic groups" (q.v.) are not really 'ethnic' but rather social groups, the label "racist" can be applied to many Talossan individuals and movements in history.

Radio-Controlled {a/jj} Having access to a car. When arranging a social gathering, the common question to each participant is "Are you radio-controlled?" Which means "Can you get here on your own, or do I have to pick you up?"

Radio Støtanneu {n} A taped news broadcast on Radio Talossa or RTV.

Radio Talossa {n} A simulated radio programme performed on tape and then sent to a listener in another city to keep him informed about events in Talossa. Produced under licence from RTV. Two of these were produced in 1982 and 1983, which derived much of their material from the SAP Tapes (q.v.)

Railway {n} The American term "railroad" is uncommon in Talossan English and is discouraged.

* Ráisnâ {n/bm} Pronounced "RICE-na". The Talossan-language word for "argument" (q.v.) which is being encouraged by King Robert and the CÚG in place of the English term. Silly example phrase: "I had a big ráisnâ with Anne Rice over rice cakes".

Rally for the Kingdom {n/bm} [See "RPR"]

* Ratenienschâ {n/bm} "Provincial Autonomy" in the Talossan language; the term has spilled over into English, thanks largely to the efforts of Ratenienschâ advocate Dale Morris.

* RAVI {n/bm} An abbreviation for "Ridînd à voce înalt," "RAVI" is the Talossan-language equivalent for the netspeak term "LOL".

* Raßemblamaintsch për el Regipäts {n/bm} [See "RPR"]

* RC {n/jj} [See "Legeu dal Ziu"]

Reductionism {n/bm} A term used to describe the desire to reduce the national territory from its current size, e.g. "back to the bedroom" (q.v.)

Regent {n} Before the passage of the 1997 Organic Law (q.v.), in the event of the infancy or disability of the King, a Regent was to be elected by the people to execute his official powers. Today there is a three-person Council of Regency, which is appointed by the Uppermost Cort (q.v.)

Regent General {n} An administrator who is in charge of an uninhabited Territory. Regents General are appointed by the Cosâ.

* Regipäts Talossán {n} Pronounced "REGGIE-pats talo-SAHN" or, less correctly, "REGGIE-pats ta-LOW-sun". The Talossan-language term for "Kingdom of Talossa". This expression is often used in Talossan English. The word "Regipäts" is used in place of "Kingdom", and is used in Talossan English to mean, specifically, Talossa, e.g. "How are things back in the Regipäts?" However, don't mix the two languages and say "The Regipäts of Talossa" -- this is very wrong.

Regulationism {n/bm} A totalitarian political philosophy espoused by King Robert I in the early 1980's and loosely based on a nationalistic form of communism. No longer relevant.

Relevation {n/rm} Revelation, especially in the sense of a breaking news story or hiterto-unknown detail.

Renziism {n/we} An assertion about history that is absurd and incorrect, or at the very least, hopelessly exaggerated. The term is derived from the name of the late William Renzi, a history professor at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. He was a Talossan citizen.

Renunciator {n/jj} A Talossan citizen who formally renounces his citizenship.

Reorganism {n/bm} The doctrines and beliefs of the Reorganised Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints are known collectively as "reorganism". The King used to be a member of this church, and discussion of it was common in the press.

Reptile {n/dl} 1) Said to be what right-wingers sleep with. 2) Can also be used to refer to far-right militarists.

Republican {a} In Talossa, the term "republican" refers to anyone who seeks to eliminate the Monarchy, and more often refers to the left than the right. The use of the American word "republican" to denote "conservative" in Talossa is to be avoided because it leads to confusion; Talossa's "republicans" are on the left.

Resolution of the Cosâ {n/jj} [See "Legeu dal Ziu"]

Resolution of the Ziu {n/jj} [See "Legeu dal Ziu"]

* Resoluziun dal Cosâ {n/jj} [See "Legeu dal Ziu"]

* Resoluziun dal Ziu {n/jj} [See "Legeu dal Ziu"]

Restoration {n} 1) The return to the Throne of King Robert I in February of 1988. 2) The reestablishment of the Church of Jesus Christ in 1830 (see "Reorganism").

Re-Talossan {n/mc} A Talossan who left Talossa and later successfully applied for citizenship.

Revisionist {n/bm} A generic term of derision, taken from Albania, where the Communist government denounced all its opponents as "revisionists". The term is frankly meaningless.

Rightist {a, n} Same as "right-wing" or "right-winger".

Right Honourable {a} The term "Right Honourable" is used before the name of the Prime Minister (only) as in "The Right Honourable Geoffrey Toumayan, Prime Minister of Talossa". But in Living Cosâs the PM is not referred to as "The Right Honourable Member from so-and-so", but rather just as "The Prime Minister". The term "Right Honourable" may also optionally be used in place of "Honourable" (q.v.) before former prime ministers, in which case it is correct to refer to them as "The Right Honourable Member from so-and-so".

Right-Wing {a} In Talossa, the Right is any person more conservative than the Progressive Conservative Party. There is no good definition for the "right" in Talossa, because the "right" has traditionally been split among several competing movements and personalities. Generally, the "right" is considered a "wing" of the spectrum because the "left" defines it as such. Generally the only thing Talossa's "right" has in common is its members' support for right-wing movements in the United States. But in Talossa, pro-American feelings are not universal among the "right" and some "right-wingers" are ardent Neutralists (q.v.) The Right is also generally more patriotic (q.v.) than the Left. On this account they share much with the Centre. Right-wingers tend to support provincial autonomy.

River, The {n} The Milwaukee River, which separates Talossa from the United States. The expression "across the river" is an off-handed way of saying "in the United States", as in "I've given up on politics across the river". The adjective "transriverine" is also used: "Transriverine politics are abzurd."

Riverside {n} 1) Riverside High School, where a majority of the Soilitariat studied or taught during the formative years of the Regipäts. A few Talossans refer to it as "Mussolini High School". The grounds of Riverside High School were a provincial-like entity called "FLUNK" for a few years in the early 1990's. 2) The northernmost canton of the province of Mussolini.

Royal Navy {n} The Talossan naval forces. See "VSM Panache".

* RPR {n/bm} A political party which existed in mid-1985, in a permanent alliance with the PC. The name stood for "Raßemblamìnt për el Regipäts" (Rally for the Kingdom), and served to bolster the PC's rule by allotting all the "votes" of citizens who did not vote to a "dummy party" (the RPR), which just happened to be controlled by this King and the PC. This was hopelessly undemocratic and RPR was abolished by the King before the October 1985 elections.

* RT {n} Abbreviation for "Regipäts Talossán". The Talossan words for "Kingdom of Talossa". No other abbreviation for "Kingdom of Talossa" is ever used.

* RT'ers {np/bm} A slang term for Talossan citizens. The word spilled over from Talossan *Ertéiers*.

* RTV {n/bm} The state-owned radio and television authority in Talossa, established in 1987. Exactly what "RTV" stands for is not clear, and different explanations have been given over the years. The most common is "Restéglh Televiziun Viens" (Television Network One, *in Talossán*) but other alternatives include "Radio and TV," and some amalgamation of "RT" and "TV".

Rumblings {np} Unhappy murmurings and quiet complaints.

SAP {n} [See "Smart Ass Party"]

SAP Tapes {np} The SAP Tapes (named for the Smart Ass Party) were a set of four cassette tapes produced from 1981-1982 by Dan Lorentz, Robert Murphy, and Robert Madison. They were a series of comedic skits which mainly lampooned John Jahn and his supposed fetish for lime jello (q.v.) The first three SAP Tapes were lost by Florence Yarney in 1983. The fourth, uncompleted, tape survives in the National Archives of Talossa, along with two other tapes which feature excerpts from the lost three.

Sceptimistic {a/ar} Sceptical and pessimistic.

Schmeckenista {n/cs} A member of SFAC (q.v.)

Schmeckenista Front for the Advancement of Cybercits {n/cs} [See "SFAC"]

Screwery {n/bm} Malicious interference or disruption.

* Scúrzniâ {n/bm} Pronounced "SKOORTZ-nia". The "short" (around 100 page) grammar of the Talossan language.

Seats {np} The Cosâ comprises 20 seats, which are divided among the parties in proportion to the parties' share of the popular vote. Before the Organic Law of 1997 elections were conducted the same way, but there were 215 seats in the Cosâ. In those days, it was not uncommon for a party to receive many more seats than it had MCs to fill those seats. Thus, MCs were allowed to hold a maximum of 30 seats (but the Prime Minister could hold 45 seats). Since the OrgLaw was approved, each Cosâ member has only been allowed to hold one seat.

Second-Class Citizen {n} An obsolete term for "Cestoûr".

Secretary of State {n/dl} In Talossa, the Secretary of State is the man responsible for the day-to-day paperwork of the Talossan government. His chief duty is compiling the Clark and recording the votes of the Ziu thereon. The title "Secretary of State" in the US refers to the man in charge of foreign policy. In the RT, foreign affairs are handled by the Foreign Minister. The RT Secretary of State has nothing to do with foreign policy.

* Seneschál {n/bm} Pronounced "SEN-esh-ow", the Talossan word for Prime Minister. This word is occasionally used in Talossan English. The Prime Minister (abbreviated PM) is the head of government. He is nominated by the King and elected by the Cosâ. He is generally the leader of the largest party in the Cosâ or of one of the parties in a governing coalition. He serves for a six-month term and may dissolve the Cosâ at will to call new elections.

* Senäts {n/bm} The Upper House of the Ziu. A candidate for the Senäts must meet several qualifications (including a certain amount of tenure in the RT) to be able to serve in the Senäts. Each Senator represents a province, and Senators are, depending on the province, appointed by the leader of the province or elected by the people of the province. They have terms of office of various lengths.

Senior Justice {n/jj} The leading or chief justice of the Cort.

SFAC {n/cs} The Schmeckenista Front for the Advancement of Cybercits, founded as a cybercit-rights organisation in 1997 by then-prospective citizen Charles Sauls. The SFAC, which doesn't have any activist duties since some 90% of Talossans use the Internet, is dedicated to bringing more information about Talossa online.

Shorewood and Whitefish Bay {n} [See "Northern Territories"]

Shrimp Flips {n/jj} A mythical snack food to which King Robert is reportedly addicted. The term comes from the prawn-flavoured potato chips which the King ate in enormous quantities during his stay in London.

* Sïançâ {n/bm} 1) Talossan for a "meeting". 2) An official meeting of the Progressive Conservative Party.

Silver Phoenix Party {n/mm} A right-of-centre political party founded in 1996 by Matthias Muth and Evan Gallagher. The SPP broke up in April 1997.

SimNation {n/as} People who believe that Talossa is an "Internet simulation game" and feel that their citizenship in Talossa is insignificant enough that they can "log out" (quit) whenever they mildly disagree with things here are said to believe that Talossa is a "SimNation".

Slate of Delegates {n/bm} [See "Delegate"]

Slush Votes {n/tb} Voters who vote for the lesser of two evils in an election rather than voting for someone on principle.

Smart Ass Party {n/rm} Abbreviated SAP, the Smart Ass Party was a political party in the United States which flourished from 1980 to 1982. Its members were Dan Lorentz, Bob Murphy, Josh Macht, Harry Wozniak and Robert Madison. The party was actually a "toastmaster" group but did have its own by-laws and platform. The orientation of the party was very left-leaning and it called for socialised medical care, massive aid to Indians, affirmative action, etc. The party collapsed twice during its history, each time because the elective chairmanship was denied to Robert Madison after the four other members had had the opportunity to be chairman.

Socialist Party of Talossa {n/mc} A left-of-centre political party founded in 1997 by Maxime Paquin-Charbonneau. It was the only political party to vote against the 1997 Organic Law.

Soilitarian {n/bm} A member of the Soilitariat.

Soilitariat {n/bm} The original core of Talossan citizens before the massive influx of population of 1984 and afterwards. The Soilitariat is generally held to comprise Robert Madison, Robert Murphy, Dan Lorentz, Josh Macht, Harry Wozniak, Jean Williams, Florence Yarney and John Jahn. John Eiffler and Melanie Ingles may also belong to this category. There is a persistent attitude among some Soilitarians that they are the "true Talossans" and this prejudiced and ethnocentric view is often very close to the surface in RT politics. The term was derived by Robert Madison from a remark by Dan Lorentz that these people were "the soil of the nation". Those who do not belong to the Soilitariat are called "Nouveaux-Talossans". The Soilitarian "class" was denounced as an "In-Bred Group" by the mad King Robert II.

Somewhat Battered Throne {n/bm} A chummy term for the Talossan Throne as a royal institution. The term arises from the fact that it has been vacated so often, beaten by republicans, and defiled by King Robert II.

Sorry? {int} This expression, from British English, is often used in Talossan English. It is used to ask someone to repeat something which one did not hear clearly. American English would use "Pardon" or (more often) "What?"

SoS {n/jj} Abbreviation for "Secretary of State" (q.v.)

Speaker of the Cosâ {n} [See "Túischac'h"]

Speech from the Throne {n/bm} 1) In general, any speech delivered by the King. 2) In specific, an address given annually by the King to the nation on the occasion of Independence Day (26 December). It summarises the events of the past year. Often just called "the Throne Speech".

Speech to the Nation {n} 1) In general, any speech delivered by any non-King person to the entire nation. 2) Specifically, the first speech given by the Prime Minister after elections. The Speech to the Nation tries to explain the PM's goals for the future, or to explain the election results. The Speech to the Nation can set the tone or agenda for the next six months.

Sponge {n/bm} [See "Vote Sponge"]

Spoons {np/bm} Hypothetical wealth, often in wistfully hoped-for amounts. The origin of the term lies in a supposed stock of precious silverware which King Robert will someday be heir to. Thus the English expression "when my ship comes in" is rendered in Talossan English, "when I get my spoons".

Sport-Infested Youth {n/bm} A pejorative term referring to grade-school or high-school kids whose lives are dominated by sports and who are generally stupid, boorish, or disrespectful of others' rights.

SPP {n/mm} [See "Silver Phoenix Party"]

SPT {n/mc} [See "Socialist Party of Talossa"]

* Spud {n/jj} Nickname for Cézembre Province, which is somewhat potato-shaped. The name was inspired by a map of Talossa noting that Cézembre was "Spud la Françâ" (Talossan: "near France"), which was misread by John Jahn and assumed to mean "French Potato" or something of the sort. The term can also apply to citizens of Cézembre, who are nicknamed "Spuds."

Sputter {v/we} To speak foreign languages that are incomprehensible. This word is usually accompanied by the name of the language spoken by the suffix *-isms* -- one who speaks German "sputters Germanisms", for example.

Squeezable Chicks {np/bm} Women, usually in the context of being a diversion that gives male Talossans a convenient excuse not to perform their patriotic duties. See "Interregnum".

Standpoint of View {n/ar} One's perspective, point of view, or standpoint. This expression ("from my standpoint of view") is used embarrassingly often in the RT.

States General {n} The elected legislature of Vuode Province.

Stenchuous {a/dl} Having a foul smell or odour.

Strong Awe {n/dl} An exaggerated feeling of awe, sometimes used in the context of supposedly being overawed by something that isn't really that impressive.

* Støtanneu {n/bm} From the Talossan word for "tusk", it is pronounced "sta-TAH-no". *Støtanneu* is the oldest newspaper in Talossa, founded in 1979. It is now the most widely read newspaper in the RT and generally supports the Progressive Conservative Party although it is noted for its wealth of non-PC guest commentaries.

Sun King {n/fy} Various terms, such as "Sun King", "Fun King", and "Ben TV" have been employed to describe what many see as King Ben's proper rôle in Talossa. Many Talossans believe that Talossa is "Ben's thing" and that he should do everything of importance in the country while others watch the show. King Robert is perhaps the leading opponent of this view, claiming that it reduces the citizenry to "patriotic couch potatoes" and leads to the dreaded Apathy.

* SVLQ {n/bm} The archaic Talossan expression *Sâ viva l'Qineu* means "Long Live the King" and it is sometimes encountered in slogans. The more modern SVLR -- for *Sâ vivadra el Regeu* -- is also found.

* SVLR {n} [See "SVLQ"]

Taco Bell {n} 1) A US restaurant chain serving pseudo-Mexican food. 2) The RT's official ethnic cuisine. Taco Bell is popular with Talossans and also symbolises their mythical attachment to Talossa's ancient corn-eating inhabitants and non-Americanness. Frequently abbreviated "TB".

Talossa {n} The Kingdom of Talossa (pronounced "ta-LOW-sa") is a sovereign, democratic, parliamentary, constitutional monarchy located in North America on the western shore of Lake Michigan. Its citizens are called Talossans. Talossa became independent on 26 November 1979.

TalossaFest {n/tb} An annual summertime party for Talossans, formerly at the Lakefront but now usually at Gay House.

Talossa for Talossans Front {n} A now-defunct organisation which advocated severely restricting Cybercit immigration.

Talossan Capital Territory {n/bm} [See "Abbavilla"]

Talossan English {n} The dialect of English spoken in Talossa. For the most part, spoken "Tanglish" (as its nickname has it) is identical to educated middle-class speech in the urban Midwest of the United States. There are some exceptions to this. The written standard is officially based on Standard (i.e. British) English. The Talossan dialect of English is marked by more than 500 identifiable non-standard words, most of which are listed in this Lexicon.

Talossan Finance Corporation {n/dl} A defunct semi-public corporation headed by Dan Lorentz, the TFC was created to manage the development of an actual Talossan financial base which could be spent on government schemes or needs. It was superseded by the Account of Inland Revenue (q.v.) in 1989.

Talossan Land Reclamation Programme {n/bm} Abbreviated "TLRP", this is a fancy name for room-cleaning which dates from the days when Talossa consisted of nothing but King Robert's bedroom.

Talossan Language {n} In Talossan, *Glheþ Talossán*. The Talossan Language is a constructed language which dates from 1981 and which is constantly promoted as the sole national language of Talossa by its inventor, King Robert I. The Talossan language is seen as a patriotic sign available to any citizen who wants to use it, but historically it was spoken only by King Robert I. In the Internet era, there has been a tremendous amount of interest in the Language among new citizens. For the first time in history, the CÚG (*Comitâ për l'Útzil del Glheþ*, which promotes the usage of the Talossan language) became a multi-member organisation in 1996. Many Talossan words have entered Talossan English (all such words are preceded by asterisks in this Lexicon). The Talossan language is a Romance derivative, most similar to North African Latin. An example of the Language (the second sentence in this paragraph): "*El glheþ Talossán c'è ün glheþ creat, qi natascheva în 1981, és qi c'è toctziuâ promotescù com'el glheþ naziunál soleu par o creatéir, Regeu Robert I.*"

Talossan Liberation Organisation {n} [See "TLO"]

Talossan National News {n/jj} Talossa's sole offline newspaper (as of October 1997). Published by John Jahn since 1985 and distributed in photocopied form to its subscribers.

Talossan National Party {n/jj} The now-defunct TNP was ruled by John Jahn. The party was characterised by its extreme right-wing views, including opposition to U.N. membership, endorsement of a plan to ban "communist and socialist parties" in the Kingdom, and desire for Talossa to join NATO. It was strongly affiliated with the Republican Party in the US.

Talossanism {n} A figure of speech particular to Tanglish.

Talossanity {n} The state or condition of being Talossan; generally a healthy condition to be in. If someone or something has Talossanity, that means that he or it fits or would fit into Talossa's milieu well.

Talossan Sponge Party {n/jlm} [See "Vote Sponge"]

Talossan Standard Time {n} [See "Early"]

Talossaphone {n/bm} A Talossan-language speaker. This term is sometimes used in conversation as an alternative to the more "ethnic" term Ladintsch (q.v.)

* Tamoráes da Fiál {n/bm} An official name for the Progressive Conservative Party in the Talossan language; it means "Warriors of Destiny" and is meant to evoke Talossa's and the PC's inextricable connexion with Berbers (q.v.)

Tanglish {n/bm} A slang term for Talossan English.

Teetotalitarian {n/bm} One who abstains from alcoholic drinks for religious reasons. This practice is called "teetotalitarianism".

Telemarketers {np} [See "Evil Telemarketers"]

Televerket {n/bm} The Talossan state-owned telecommunications authority, created in 1979. The name comes from the Norwegian language, which was Talossa's official national language at the time.

Territoriality {n/dl} A mostly archaic political issue which revolved around the question "Does the RT have an actual plot of land that it sits on, or is Talossa just an idea?" Pro-Territoriality people tend to think of Talossa as an actual nation (whether in actuality or potential), while anti-Territoriality people saw Talossa as "an idea" and a club.

Territory {n} 1) In general, land possessed by the Kingdom. 2) Specifically, a territory is part of Talossa where no Citizens live, similar to a "territory" in the United States (being an area which has not been made into a State).

TFC {n/dl} [See "Talossan Finance Corporation"]

Thord, Kingdom of {n/je} The Kingdom of Thord was a World Singular Secessionist state that flourished under the leadership of John Eiffler from 1980 to 1984. It no longer exists, but the word "Thord" or "Thordian" is still associated with Eiffler (and for that reason, a parish in Eiffler's province of Florenciâ was named "Thord" by Gov. Charles Sauls in 1997).

Throne Speech {n} [See "Speech from the Throne"]

Time {n} When prefixed with the name of a person (e.g. "Ben-time", "Dan-time"), this refers to the daily schedule the person keeps. Thus "Ben-time" is the habit (chiefly Ben's) of staying up all night and sleeping in during the daytime.

TLO {n} An abbreviation for a mythical and imaginary "Talossan Liberation Organisation" which is blamed in jest for any accident or act of vandalism which could be construed as a blow against Cestoûrs or the United States. For instance, Talossans might see an empty flagpole and say "The flag was stolen by the TLO."

TLRP {n/bm} [See "Talossan Land Reclamation Project"]

TNN {n/jj} [See "Talossan National News"]

TNP {n/jj} [See "Talossan National Party"]

Today's 59 Today {n} An evently blurb in *Støtanneu* which cites strange or not so strange cases of "59's" when they occur in the lives of Talossans or others. See "Fifty-Nine".

Tory {n} Originally an English word for monarchist or conservative, the nickname "Tory" now refers to Talossa's Progressive Conservative Party. In US history the "Tories" were those who refused to support the establishment of a republic in America, and the PC has proudly accepted the Tory nickname on that account too.

Total Alliance {n/fm} A political alliance forged in mid-1985 between the Progressive Conservative Party, the Black Hand, and the Front Uni pour la Nation which ruled the Kingdom for one year until the FUN defected in late 1986 to support a republic. The Total Alliance continued without them until late 1987 when the MN and the PC fused into a common party; now again called the PC.

Transriverine {a} [See "River"]

* Treisoûr {n/bm} The massive 1993 Talossan/English dictionaries, containing some 30,000 words in English and Talossan. They were comprehensively revised in 1998. The full title is "El Treisoûr del Glheþ Talossán", or "The Treasure of the Talossan Language".

Trid {n} Any small, insignificant, weak, or ineffective thing. The adjective form is "triddly".

* Túischac'h {n/bm} Pronounced "TWEESH-ach" ("ach" is raspy, as in German). Since 1989 the title of Túischac'h has been conferred upon the person elected to serve as the Speaker of the Cosâ, who, during a Living Cosâ, serves as order-keeper and directs the flow of the debate. In 1985 and 1986 the ceremonial President of the Senäts was also called the Túischac'h.

* Tú Phäts {n} Pronounced "too fats". *Tú Phäts* was a newspaper published in early 1985 by Preßeu Støtanneu and distributed by photocopy to the citizenry. It was the first mass-distribution paper in the RT but was found to be too boring and it folded after a few months. The name is Talossan and it means "Your Country".

TZ {n} A column of personal opinion written in *Støtanneu* by Dan Lorentz. Its name comes from the last two letters in his surname.

Union Province {n/bm} A Talossan province which does not have self-government. Union provinces are ruled by Governors appointed by the Cosâ.

Unorthodox Church {n/bm} The quasi-official State Church of Talossa, headed by King Robert I (its "Defender of the Faith"). The Church, among other beliefs, reveres Mormon polygamist Joseph Smith as its "Patron Saint of Relationships" and has complex theological beliefs about subways.

Uppermost Cort {n/jj} The highest court in the Regipäts is the Uppermost Cort, or *Cort pü Înalt*. See "Cort".

Upsurgent {n/bm} A troublemaker, especially a newcomer in politics.

ÜTD {n/bm} A semi-fascist régime that ruled Talossa briefly in 1980. Ruled by King Robert under the "principles of Kemâl Atatürk", former Turkish dictator. Name in full was "Üçüncü Talossa'nin Dolasim", Turkish for "Third Talossan Revolution".

Vague Principles {np/dl} A set of, well, vague principles at the beginning of the 1988 Constituziun, which set out the general purposes of having a Talossan government and the general outline of how the government should work. They were to be used by the Cort as a guide as how to interpret laws or the Constituziun itself. They were written by Dan Lorentz, who originally wanted the Constituziun to consist of them only, because he said that rules about how a government was actually supposed to work in practice were "too boring".

VBP {n} [See "Vote By Post"]

Victory Day {n/bm} A national holiday (25 November) celebrating Talossa's victory in the Cone Wars.

Vile Obstructionist {n/bm} An especially irritating obstructionist (q.v.)

Vindsvåning {n/bm} Abortive name for the RT capital in Ben's attic, named for the *Hotell Vindsvåning* which a 1980 RT tourist brochure assured us existed there. See "Electrabase".

VOC {n} [See "Vote of Confidence"]

Volkspolizei {n} Pronounced "FOLKS-po-lee-tsigh". The German word for "people's police", the totalitarian militia of East Germany. The term is used in Talossa as a slang word for American police. It is abbreviated "Vopo" (pronounced "FO-po"), e.g. "The Vopos have arrested some Cestoûr Brubakerites."

Vopo {n} [See "Volkspolizei"]

Vortex {n} A physical property said to be had by Gary Cone, which can be defined as a "personality vacuum" making the possessor of a vortex inherently disinteresting. See "chasmatic". A combination of having a vortex and being chasmatic is called "Vortexian Chasmaticism".

Vortex of Weirditude {n/jj} The town of West Allis (q.v.), Wisconsin, so called because of an unusual concentration of RT citizens living there.

Vote-By-Post {n/dl} Abbreviated "VBP", Vote By Post is the system of parliamentary business used in the Talossan Ziu. Bills are compiled in the monthly bulletin (the Clark) and distributed to all Members of the Ziu, who then mail back their responses. This is done either by postal mail or by electronic mail. The system was devised by Dan Lorentz in 1987 and ushered in a revolutionary democratisation of Talossan government.

Vote of Confidence {n} In the Cosâ, the Government must receive a Vote of Confidence (abbreviated VOC) where a majority of seats in the Cosâ declare their support for the Government and the Prime Minister. If the PM fails to get a majority in the Cosâ to support him during a month on the VOC, he must dissolve the Cosâ within two weeks and call new elections.

Vote Sponge {n/bm} 1) Generally, any left-wing party that sops up the votes of disinterested, apathetic leftists; the classic example of this was the old do-nothing Liberal Party. 2) Specifically, a political party (the Talossan Sponge Party) formed in 1989 by Jennifer Madison, at the behest of Dan Lorentz.

* VSM {n} An abbreviation for *Vaißâl da Sieu Maxhestá* [vy-SOW da shoo ma-jes-TAH], or "His Majesty's Ship". Used before ships in the Royal Navy, as with the VSM Panache. VSM is the equivalent of British HMS or American USS.

VSM Panache {n} The Panache is a sailboat, commanded by Admiral Kurt Litscher, who is the Admiral of the Talossan Fleet. It is the flagship of the Royal Navy and was traditionally stationed (during good weather) at Maritiimi-Maxhestic Province. For several years, however, the dilapadated Panache has been in permanent drydock at the house of Talossan citizen Wes Erni, in West Allis (q.v.), Wisconsin.

Vuode {n} Pronounced "voo-OH-day", this word comes from the Finnish word for "bed". Originally encompassing only King Robert's bed, Vuode is now Talossa's largest province (by non-Cestoûr population). It is the stronghold of monarchism and of the Progressive Conservative Party, and is the home province of King Robert I. It is made up of two cantons (Vuode and Dûn Cestoûr), and its official abbreviation is "VD".

Vuode Palace {n} The King's Prospect Avenue residence in Vuode Province. It was here that Talossa proclaimed its independence on 26 December 1979.

Wagadugu! {int/wr} An interjection signifying something on the order of "dangnabbit! I'm gonna git you varmint!" and usually accompanied by a raised fist. The word actually comes from "Ouagadougou," the capital of the former Upper Volta; Dr. Renzi said it sounded like a Japanese curse. For that reason it is usually uttered in a mock-Japanese accent.

Wargames {np} A hobby practised by a number of Talossans, involving the simulation of historical military conflicts. "Wargamers" have a reputation (not undeserved) for being grubby, clammy, and weird. Dan Lorentz has tried to lump King Ben, Wes Erni, and John Jahn together as "wargamers" in an attempt to make this inapplicable stereotyped image cling to them in the eyes of voters, but to little avail.

Waterpuhl {n/rm} Pronounced "water pool", the name is a mixture of "Watergate" and "Dobberpuhl". A big political scandal in early 1987 involving the abdication of King Robert I and his replacement by a hand-picked successor, King Robert II, who turned out to be uninteresting and schizophrenic. Talossans reacted with revulsion against his "imposition" on them, and threw the PC-MN Erni Government out of office in the spring of 1987. A brief republic was proclaimed; King Robert II fled the country, never to return.

W.C. {n} A toilet. This abbreviation, from Standard (British) English is often used in the RT.

Weird {a} 1) In American English, "strange". 2) In Talossan English, "weird" is an adjective of disapproval; anything which one does not like can be described as "weird", especially if one does not completely understand it.

We Shall All See {n/dl} A classic Talossan answer which can either indicate deviousness or indecision. It is most commonly used to respond to a question such as "What will you do next?" and can indicate that the responder does not want to tell, or does not know himself. The term was once a trademark of Dan Lorentz, but has spread to the general language.

West Allis: Free and Independent Republic of {n/pw} A town in the United States, SW of Talossa; it is called this name by at least one local Cestoûr. See "Vortex of Weirditude".

Westerners {n/bm} An Ethnic Group composed of Wes Erni and friends of his who live west of Talossa. The name comes both from "Wes" and "West". Composed of Wes, Geoff Toumayan, Tom Buffone, and Jack Schneider.

"What Talossa Means To Me" {n/bm} An essay which all prospectives must write, explaining why they want to be Talossan citizens and what they will do if they become such.

What the Hell's Going On? {int/hm} A clichéd statement of confusion, generally uttered in a very agitated tone of voice to show mock abject bewilderment.

Whizzo {n/we} 1) Specifically a device or machine, but can refer to any object or thing. Similar to French "truc", Talossan "trüc"; resembles English "gizmo". Can also refer to things which are technically simple but for which one has forgotten the name. ("Hand me that whizzo thing over there.") 2) {a/cs} In mid-1997 this term had evolved to also be equivalent to "neat" or "nifty", as a replacement for the word "keen" (q.v.), which is not used in Talossa due to confusion with "kuenn" (q.v.) An example of this usage: "It's whizzo when the party that you vote for actually wins an election!"

"Why Talossa Hasn't Meant That Much To Me" {n/bm} An essay that Talossans who have lost their citizenship or quit (q.v.) must write to regain their citizenship.

Window of Vulnerability {n/jj} An opportunity. Usually a short span of time during a busy schedule when one can squeeze in some Talossa-related social activity. ("Do you have a window of vulnerability this afternoon?")

World Singular Secession {n/bm} A now defunct world philosophy which called on all free-thinking citizens of the world to secede from their respective nations and create bedroom-sized countries. On the basis of this philosophy, Talossa (in the person of King Ben) seceded from America in 1979.

Woz, the {n/aw} A nickname for Andrew Wozniak.

Woz Belt {n/we} A long string of bills proposed by Andrew Wozniak in the Clark, which can be voted against without much thought. Taking "P" for për and "C" for contrâ, a review of a month's Cosâ vote may appear thus: *PPPPPCC CCCPPPPPP*. There's a good chance the string of C's in the middle was a Woz Belt and thus the Cosâ rejected the bills. Woz Belt bills have in the past included attempts to name "official animals" that did not live in the country, and to ban religious persons from public office "since religion has not been important since Louis XIV".

Yonkee {n} The term "Yonkee" was Solomon Juneau's term for Americans -- the term is "Yankee" with a French accent. Since "Yonkee" is a genuine Talossan English word (it grew up on Talossan soil in the 1830's) some attempt has been made to popularise it among contemporary Talossans as a nickname for Americans.

You Can Run, But You Can't Hide {n/bm} A former Talossan law, compelling political parties to make public all their advertising and mailings so that opposing parties can see if they're being fairly criticised.

* Zefençadéirs del Päts Talossán {n/ko} A "new left" RT political party, set up by Ken Oplinger in 1996. Abbreviation: "ZPT". Formerly called DOLT ("Defenders of the Talossan Land").

* Zictziunár {n} The Zictziunár (pronounced "zix-ee-oo-NAR") is the 1987 English-Talossan, Talossan-English Dictionary. It contained some 5,000 words in each language.

Zipit {n/gt} Nickname for a member of the Zefençadéirs del Päts Talossán (q.v.) party; comes from the party's initials, ZPT.

* Ziu {n} Under the Organic Law, the bicameral Talossan parliament. The upper house is the Senäts and the lower house is the Cosâ. The term fell out of disuse in 1986 when the Ziu was reduced to just a unicameral legislature made up of just the Cosâ; but when the Senäts was revived in 1995, the term "Ziu" for the entire bicameral legislature returned. It is pronounced "ZEE-oo", or "zoo".

Zook {v/jj} To surprise: "It was a zooking experience." "I was thoroughly zooked."

Zooks! {int/bm} A clipped form of the archaic English "gadzooks", the interjection "zooks" is used as a reaction to a surprising event. Its most common translation in American English is "Good heavens!" It is heard all the time in Talossa and may very well be the most easily identifiable peculiarity of Talossan English. The comic extension "Zooks! Ook! Hoop Op!" is also (rarely) found; this is sometimes abbreviated "ZOHO" and is a random collection of blitherings in Afrikaans ("ook" means 'also' and "hoop op" means 'to hope for').